Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Have you attended or do you plan to attend any of the candidate forums and debates being held in the runup to the Nov. 7 elections?

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PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS

PHASE 6

As of October 28, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

What Recovery?

The housing market and stocks may be looking up, but Americans just can't shake their job worries.

BUSINESS...Page 15

Afghan Mayhem

Gunmen storm a guest house used by U.N. staff in the heart of the Afghan capital, killing 10.

WORLD...Page 16

NMI NOW PART OF THE 'GEOGRAPHICAL U.S.'

DHS: No asylum during transition

DHS, DOJ amend rules to comply with federalization law

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

RELATED NEWS

- Alien worker groups still reviewing DHS regs. **PAGE 2**

INFO SESSIONS

- USCIS booth at Garapan Street Market tonight
- Oct. 30, American Memorial Park, 5pm to 7pm

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of Justice are amending their regulations to conform with the law that federalizes CNMI immigration, including a halt to granting asylum during the transition period from Nov. 28, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2014.

See DHS on Page 4

SUBMIT COMMENTS

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov
- E-mail: rfs.regs@dhs.gov
- Mail: Chief, Regulatory Products Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529-2210

Q&A

Continued from yesterday

Q. What forms are needed to apply for this visa?

A. Employers may file a petition for a transitional worker with USCIS using Form I-129CW, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker in CNMI. (This new form was modeled after the existing Form I-129.)

Q. How does the employer file the Form I-129CW Petition?

A. By mail to the USCIS California

See Q&A on Page 4

FACE-OFF HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

The four gubernatorial candidates join officers of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce for a group photo right after the well-attended debate on Tuesday night at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan. From left, Chamber treasurer Michael Johnson, secretary Kathryn Barry, Republican Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider, Covenant Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Democrat Ramon "Kumoi" Deleon Guerrero, Independent Juan "Pan" Guerrero, and Chamber president Jim Arenovski. ***See story on Page 3.***

Senate budget bill cuts govt workweek to just four days

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

On a 5-0 vote with two abstentions, the Senate passed yesterday the Fiscal Year 2010 budget bill that reduces government workweek to four days to cut the

See SENATE on Page 4

Umbrella permits extended to IRs

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

In its effort to cover everybody—at least in the transition period—the CNMI government has extended the issuance of two-year "umbrella permit" to immedi-

See UMBRELLA on Page 4

DPH got $49.4M in federal grants in 10 years. **PAGE 5**
'No need for more land for training on Tinian' **PAGE 6**

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Local

Suspected 'ice' trafficker falls

Police arrested Friday a suspected supplier of methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan during a sting operation.

Ruidong Yang, 31, was brought to the Superior Court to face charges of trafficking and illegal possession of a controlled substance.

Presiding Judge Robert Naraja imposed a $60,000 cash bail for Yang's temporary liberty. The preliminary hearing is set for Nov. 3 at 1:30pm.

Detective Steven A. Castro stated in his report that the Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation Division's Narcotics Unit planned the sting after receiving information that Yang was a supplier of "ice" on Saipan.

During the operation, Castro said, a DPS "cooperating source" managed to buy $100 and $50 worth of "ice" from Yang in separate incidents on Wednesday and Friday last week in San Antonio. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Alien worker groups still reviewing DHS regs

Alien worker groups are still reviewing the Department of Homeland Security's interim final rule on transitional worker program and have expressed no opinion about it yet.

United Workers Movement Inc. president Rabby Syed said in an interview yesterday that their group has no position yet on the rules because their officials are still carefully reading the 63-page document.

"Right now, we are trying to figure out its effects on the contract workers in the CNMI," Syed said.

He said they will attend a forum organized by the DHS and get feedback from officials before they come up with a position.

Syed said they will conduct a thorough discussion with members and officials.

Stephen Woodruff, counsel for Dekada Movement, said yesterday he is still reading the document.

Woodruff said he will issue Dekada's position on the matter after reviewing the papers. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Four gubernatorial bets square off on issues

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

While no one emerged a winner in Tuesday night's gubernatorial debate, the four candidates made known their position on federalization, an elected attorney general, the economy, the Retirement Fund and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., to help voters decide whom to vote for on Nov. 7.

The debate, sponsored by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, also gave Republican Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider, Covenant Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Democrat Ramon "Kumoi" S. Deleon Guerrero, and Independent Juan "Pan" Guerrero a chance to present their platform.

Over 350 supporters and voters filled the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan for the debate, moderated by John Anderson of Bridge Capital LLC.

Hofschneider, Deleon Guerrero, and Guerrero support federalization, saying it brings stability for local residents, foreign workers and investors, while Fitial said it causes uncertainty and brings severe economic harm to the CNMI.

Fitial has sued the U.S. government over federalization but a court decision has yet to be issued, a month before the Nov. 28 start of transition to federal immigration in the CNMI.

Deleon Guerrero, a former senator and executive director of CUC, blamed the CNMI government for the federal takeover, but added that these issues should have been tackled through Section 902 consultation.

Fitial, Hofschneider and Guerrero do not support having an elected attorney general.

The governor does not support abolishing Article 12 but supports amending it to allow children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of Northern Marianas descent to own land, be able to transfer ownership of land through sale or lease even to non-NMDs. "I think this is the best solution to this issue," he said.

Guerrero and Leon Guerrero said amending or abolishing Article 12 should be left to the people to decide, while Hofschneider opposes changing the provision but is open to extending the maximum 55-year lease to 75 years.

All the candidates do not support raising taxes to reduce the government's deficit of $242 million as of September 2008.

Fitial said when he became governor, the Retirement Fund was already broken but his administration created the Defined Contribution Plan that reduced the over $1 billion in actuarial accrued liability by $121 million in the first year alone.

But Deleon Guerrero disagreed with the governor, saying the Retirement Fund became "more broke" when Public Law 15-15 was signed, suspending government payments to the pension system, which also reflected the position of the two other candidates.

Except for Deleon Guerrero, the three gubernatorial bets want CUC as well as the Commonwealth Health Center to be run in full or in part by the private sector.

Despite the opposing views and stands on issues, the candidates were courteous with each other. Another gubernatorial debate is set for today, to be sponsored by the Northern Marianas College.

For Senate 2009
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2nd robbery suspect said identified

Police have identified the second suspect in the daylight robbery at a pawnshop in Chalan Kanoa last Friday that injured two persons.

Sources at the Department of Public Safety disclosed yesterday that follow-up investigation helped police identify Marlon Martin's companion.

Sources said detectives are now wrapping up their investigation to arrest the second suspect.

The second suspect was described as 5'8" tall and skinnier than Martin.

Last Friday, Superior Court presiding judge Robert C. Naraja imposed a $20,000 cash for Martin's temporary liberty. Naraja set the preliminary hearing for Nov. 2 at 9am.

Martin, 25, a Palauan/Pohnpeian, was arrested shortly after the robbery and brought to the Commonwealth Health Center for treatment of a laceration to the right thumb. He was later detained at the Department of Corrections.

A 72-year-old Korean male sustained a bruise on his chest. He was treated at CHC and later released.

The second victim, a 45-year-old Filipino male, was wounded in the head, requiring nine staples. He was treated at CHC and later released.

Detective Christopher Leon Guerrero said the robbery happened at the 24 Hours Pawnshop, formerly called the Pink House Pawnshop.

Leon Guerrero said witnesses chased the two suspects, but only Martin was arrested.

Leon Guerrero said he saw Martin lying on the floor in between car transmission parts at the Yue Wah Auto Shop in Chalan Kanoa 3. The detective said the suspect was very exhausted and was bloodied on the right hand.

Leon Guerrero recovered $834.10 cash and a pepper mace from Martin.

The suspects reportedly stole about $6,000 cash.

Police recovered at the scene a sledgehammer, pellet gun rifle, and machete. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Q&A

From Page 1

Service Center. Please follow the instructions on the form.

Q. What happens to CW-1 transitional workers at the end of the transition period?

A. The transition period ends on December 31, 2014. The CW classification will exist for the duration of the transition period. CNMI-Only Transitional Worker status will be granted initially for one year and is renewable throughout the transition period in one-year increments. At the end of the transition period, the Transitional Worker Program will cease to exist and the transitional workers who held this status must change to another nonimmigrant or immigrant status under the INA if they wish to stay in the CNMI lawfully. The U.S. Department of Labor may extend the availability of the CNMI Transitional Worker Program beyond 2014, but no decision on any extension has been made at this time.

Q. What occupational categories would be allowed?

A. Under the rule, the Transitional Worker program includes MOST occupational categories being used in CNMI now. Domestic household workers employed directly by private residents will not be eligible for CW-1 status. However, domestic workers employed through a "legitimate business" for placement in individual households could be eligible.

Q. Which CNMI employers are eligible to petition for transitional workers?

A. To be eligible to petition for a CW-1 nonimmigrant worker, an employer must: be engaged in legitimate business; consider all available United States workers for the positions being filled by the CW-1 worker; offer terms and conditions of employment which are consistent with the nature of the occupation, activity, and industry in CNMI; and comply with all federal and Commonwealth requirements relating to employment, including nondiscrimination, occupational safety, and minimum wage requirements. Legitimate business means a real, active, and operating commercial or entrepreneurial undertaking which produces services or goods for profit, or is a governmental, charitable or other validly recognized nonprofit entity. The business must meet applicable legal requirements for doing business in CNMI. A business will not be considered legitimate if it engages directly or indirectly in prostitution, trafficking in minors, or any other activity that is illegal under federal or CNMI law. *(Source: USCIS)*

To be continued

UMBRELLA

From Page 1

ate relatives or IRS, foreign students, and investors on island.

Department of Labor deputy secretary Barry Hirshbein and special counsel Dianne Siemer said yesterday that the Commerce Department will separately issue the "umbrella permit" to foreign students, foreign investors and long-term businesses as well as permits for ministers and missionaries—all categories excluded from the 240K permits for foreign workers.

Labor began issuing the umbrella permits on Monday. A total of 1,353 permits have already been issued.

About 50 "minor" problems were encountered during the first day, Hirshbein said. These included those who have valid entry permits and passports but were not found in the system. Most of these cases have employers who have not or had just recently filed an extension or amendment to the worker's contract, Hirshbein said. These concerns were addressed on the first day, he added.

Hirshbein emphasized that those who were not able to pick up their permits on the scheduled date would still be accommodated by the department.

He encouraged workers to pick up their umbrella permits anytime, saying there is no need to fall in line early.

He said Labor is thinking of extending its operation until 6pm daily during the issuance of permits or opening the department on Saturday and Sunday, depending on the volume of workers.

Although Labor will print the umbrella permits for Commerce, Hirshbein said this is separate from the initial 13,000 permits Labor will print.

He said another 3,000 permits may be printed for 240K holders.

'IRs with no current permit must file request'

Siemer emphasized that all IRs on island are now covered by umbrella permits after the government considered their situation.

She said the government is aware of the existence of many IRs who have no work or permit but are allowed to stay on island.

There are two types of IRs: immediate relatives of U.S. citizens and immediate relatives of aliens. Their permits are categorized as 240D and 240E.

IRs of U.S. citizens with valid permits are advised to claim their umbrella permit at the first floor of the Labor building on Nov. 10 to 13. IRs of U.S. citizens with no current permits will need to file a request at the Administrative Hearing Office on Nov. 10-12.

The Labor officials also advised IRs of aliens who have valid permits to claim their permits on Nov. 10-13, while for those who have no current permits must report and file a request on Nov. 11-13.

"This government wants those family units to stay together. So their situation will be considered because this government is not in business to split families," Siemer said.

'Important schedules'

The two Labor officials issued the following schedule in the issuance of umbrella permits:

- For transfer extensions, Labor will accommodate them every Tuesday at the hearing office for pending requests.
- Valid permit holders (alphabetical schedule through Nov. 6).
- Pending applications including deficiencies, denials: Nov. 10-13 at the Labor building, first floor.
- Pending cases: Nov. 2-3 at the Administrative Hearing Office at Labor, second floor.
- Other requests (persons not on an overstayer list): Must file a request letter on any Friday and permit issuance is the following Tuesday.
- Overstayers: Must file a request for waiver with the Immigration Division.
- Cleanup date: Nov. 6-7 at Labor building

For permits to be issued by the Commerce Department:

- 240L permit (ministers) and 240M permits (missionaries): Nov. 5-6 at Director of Labor's Office
- 240G permits (foreign investors): Nov. 5-6 at Commerce Department
- 240H permits (foreign students): Nov. 9-10 at Commerce Department
- 240N permits (long term business): Nov. 5-6 at Commerce Department
- 240O permits (retiree investors): Nov. 5-6 at Commerce Department
- Cleanup date at Commerce: Nov. 11, 12, 14.

SENATE

From Page 1

projected annual deficit of $15.3 million.

The proposal to reduce work hours to 64 every pay day is more drastic than the every-other Friday austerity measure under Public Law 15-24.

House Bill 16-275, HD2, SS1 now goes back to the House of Representatives because of the Senate's amendments, mainly the austerity measures.

"It's a tough decision that has to be made," Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Sen. Frica Pangelinan (D-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune*.

Pangelinan said the four-day workweek will help reduce the projected deficit of $15.3 million in FY 2010.

The Senate also capped the number of full-time employees to 3,556 instead of 3,549 set by the House.

"The whole purpose of passing a balanced budget is to ensure we do not incur a deficit. Without austerity measures, we will continue incurring a deficit," she added.

Besides Pangelinan, the four other senators who voted "yes" on the budget bill were Sen. Joseph Mendiola (Cov-Tinian), Sen. Paul Manglona (R-Rota), Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan), and Sen. Henry San Nicolas (Cov-Tinian).

Senate President Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) and Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) abstained from voting.

Hofschneider said any decision to cut the work hours of government employees should not come from the Legislature, but from the governor.

"It's unfair to cut the work hours of employees when you give salary increase to some," he said, adding that the government should instead implement strict freeze hiring rather than reduce the work hours to 64 every pay period.

Two other senators were absent at the session yesterday afternoon: Vice President Felix Mendiola (Cov-Rota), and Sen. Paterno Hocog (R-Rota).

Conference committee

The Senate president said it is likely the House of Representatives will reject the Senate-amended budget bill.

"So I appointed a conference committee that will work with the House on the budget. I expect the joint conference committee will incorporate the concerns of the Department of Public Safety. I don't think our police officers, who are the lowest paid in the nation, should have reduced work hours," Reyes said.

Police officers, their families and supporters held a protest march on Monday at the Legislature and the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill to demand pay increases and a desk audit.

"I am sure the conference committee will find a way to address the most pressing concerns," said Reyes.

The Senate president appointed Manglona to lead the three-member conference committee, along with members Crisostimo and Joseph Mendiola. Pangelinan, who is not seeking re-election, declined to chair the conference committee.

The Senate-amended budget bill does not change the House's identified budgetary resources of $162.820 million.

The House bill pegs the appropriations at $150,288,886, while the Senate amended it to $154,418,886.

But since FY 2010 started on Oct. 1 without a new budget law, the government has started operating under a continuing resolution.

In the 68-page Standing Committee Report on the bill, the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee said incorporating austerity measures into the budget measure will not only avoid over $15.3 million in shortfall, but will also sustain the employment of 3,556 full-time employees, and maintain basic public services.

If austerity measures are not implemented, the budget shortfall for FY 2010 will be $15,346,557.

Without the austerity Fridays, however, the government can cut all costs by about 10 percent, take $15 million from the operational costs, or order a reduction in force, Pangelinan said.

In the House budget bill for FY 2010 introduced by House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan), there are no salary cuts but non-personnel costs are reduced by $9.7 million in lieu of austerity compared to FY 2009 non-personnel spending.

House Bill 16-275 also pumps money into paying the government's $231 million deficient employer contribution to the Retirement Fund, as ordered by a June 29 Superior Court ruling, among other things.

DHS

From Page 1

Both DHS and DOJ issued yesterday a 79-page document on the interim final rule, to be posted in the Oct. 28 Federal Register.

This comes a day after DHS' interim final rule on the CNMI transitional worker program was published, also in the Federal Register.

Both rules are open for a 30-day public comment.

The latest amendments also remove references to the CNMI as not being subject to the Immigration and Nationality Act, and update the definition of the geographical "United States" to include the CNMI for immigration purposes.

David G. Gulick, district director of DHS U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for Hawaii, Guam and the CNMI, informed members of the House of Representatives on Capital Hill yesterday about the DHS/DOJ interim final rule, which will be effective Nov. 28.

Gulick and USCIS community outreach regional lead Janna Evans met yesterday and on Tuesday with members of workers' groups, the media, the CNMI Bar Association, lawmakers, and Japanese and Philippine consular officials, among other entities.

Evans will also be manning a USCIS booth at the Garapan Street Market tonight, and will hold an open forum or town hall meeting about the transitional worker program interim final rule on Friday at the outdoor amphitheater of the American Memorial Park, from 5pm to 7pm.

Joint rulemaking document

In a statement yesterday, Marie Thérèse Sebrechts, USCIS regional media manager, said the DHS USCIS interim final rule is posted in the Federal Register jointly with DOJ's Executive Office for Immigration Review.

"USCIS and EOIR wrote the conforming amendments to their respective regulations to comply with CNRA and to ensure that existing regulations apply to persons and entities arriving in or physically present in the CNMI," Sebrechts said.

The interim final rule says that, while most U.S. immigration benefits will become available to aliens in the CNMI on the transition program's effective date, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act precludes the availability of asylum for aliens present in or arriving in the CNMI during the transition period.

Asylum is a discretionary benefit that may be granted to aliens who establish that they have been persecuted or have well-founded fears of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular group, or political opinion.

"An alien already present in or arriving in the CNMI, seeking asylum prior to Jan. 1, 2015, is not eligible to apply for asylum until or after Jan. 1, 2015," the interim final rule says.

The rule also specifically amends references to the geographical "United States" and its territories and possessions; alien classifications authorized for employment; documentation acceptable for Employment Eligibility Verification (Form I-9); employment of unauthorized aliens; and adjustment of status of immediate relatives admitted under the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program.

It also makes a technical change to correct a citation error in the regulations governing the Visa Waiver Program and the regulations governing asylum and withholding of removal.

DHS administers and enforces the INA and most laws related to the immigration and naturalization of aliens.

DOJ, meanwhile, is responsible for the immigration courts that provide administrative adjudications of removal proceedings as well as the Board of Immigration Appeals that hears appeals of immigration court decisions and certain DHS decisions.

"Some changes implemented under CNRA affect existing regulations governing both DHS and DOJ. It is necessary to make amendments both to DHS and DOJ regulations so that corresponding regulations appropriately reference and include CNMI. DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano and Attorney General Eric Holder are jointly proposing conforming amendments to their respective regulations in this one rulemaking document," Sebrechts added.

DPH got $49.4M in federal grants in 10 years

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Health received a total of $49.4 million in federal grants in the last 10 years, based on documents obtained by *Saipan Tribune*.

From a little over $2 million in federal assistance in Fiscal Year 2000, the amount increased to over $10 million in the last fiscal year.

Records indicated that 12 different federal grants were awarded DPH in FY 2000 totaling to $2.3 million, while 14 other grants amounting to $2.6 million was received the following fiscal year.

About $400,000 was added to the federal awards in 2002 when the department got $3 million in assistance for its various programs. Among the programs that obtained significant grant amounts included the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program and the Maternal and Child Health Program. Each received over half a million in federal assistance.

In FY 2003, the grant amounts slightly declined to $2.6 million, with 14 programs approved for funding.

Meantime, 15 programs were provided federal grants in 2004, with DPH receiving $2.9 million from the federal government. Of these programs, the bioterrorism preparedness and response activities got the biggest bulk of the grants at $660,000.

In FY 2005, the department was awarded total federal monies of $3.4 million for 16 different health programs. The figure translates to a half-million dollar increase from 2004's award of $2.9 million.

In FY 2005, DPH began getting larger amounts of assistance for its programs. Federal agencies provided 18 CNMI health programs $5.6 million in aid.

The increase in federal help was echoed the following year when a total of $6.8 million was granted to DPH, with 19 programs in FY 2007 benefiting. The figure jumped to a significant $9.6 million in FY 2008, and the trend continued in FY 2009, with $10.2 million in federal aid.

DPH is currently under a state of emergency due to inadequate services and lack of critical personnel.

OES students taught how to take care of their teeth

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic capped its celebration of Dental Health Month this October with a presentation on proper dental care to about 80 kindergarten, first and fourth graders at the Oleai Elementary School yesterday.

SDA dental hygienist Lori I. Serna said the presentations focused on the how's and why's of taking care of one's teeth.

Serna estimates a total of about 250 children benefited from the presentations.

Although exhausting at times, the presentations have generated strong interest among students, Serna said. After each presentation, the children gain a better understanding why they need to take care of their teeth, she added.

Early this month the SDA Dental Clinic sent Serna to visit students at Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School to conduct a similar presentation.

"It feels great to see their faces smiling after each conversation with them. They really do understand why they need to take care of their teeth," she told *Saipan Tribune.*

Besides the visits to the two schools, Serna said many families also took advantage of the free dental exams the clinic offered this month.

In yesterday's session, Serna taught the students how to brush their teeth properly and how keep their teeth healthy. She also gave away free toothbrushes and stickers.

Since brushing one's teeth is often boring, Serna encourages students to do it in a fun way such as while watching television or listening to the radio. She also emphasized the importance of eating healthy foods and fruits that help in the development of the teeth.

In February, SDA will also hold a series of activities celebrating Children's Dental Health Month.

SDA Dental Clinic, a non-profit clinic whose mission is to provide quality care to the community, has been serving the CNMI in the past nine years. It also has two regular programs, "Clinic with a Heart" and "Give Kids a Smile."

Last summer, over a hundred people were served during the Clinic with a Heart while over 200 benefited from the Give Kids a Smile program.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

October 9, 2009

Notice is hereby given, that pursuant to that certain **Writ of Execution on Personal Property** by the **CNMI Superior Court in Civil Action No. 04-0588C**, the Commonwealth Development Authority ("CDA"), **together with assistance of the CNMI Department of Public Safety**, shall auction off to the highest bidder **assets of Westpac Freight including office furniture, equipments and various other items.**

An inventory listing may be obtained at CDA Office, Gualo Rai or on our website at www.cda.gov.mp, photos are available online.

The auction shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The items are being sold **"AS IS"** and **"WHERE IS"**;
2. The items are being sold **WITHOUT WARRANTY** of any type;
3. The public auction will be held at the **Westpac Freight Parking Lot, Lower Base, Saipan on Friday, October 30, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.**;
4. Terms of the sale are cash, certified check, or credit card (Visa & Mastercard); and
5. CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw this notice and postpone the sale from time to time.

Full payment of the bid amount is required before the property can be removed from site. Payment must be received before end of business day, 4:30 p.m. Friday, October 30, 2009. Failure to make full payment will cause award to be null and void.

CDA is attempting to collect a debt and any payments received will be used for that purpose. Any interested party or person may contact Mr. Oscar C. Camacho, Loan Manager, CDA at 234-7145 for further information or to inspect the items. Failure to inspect the property will not constitute grounds for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer. All sales are final.

Dated this 9th day of October, 2009

Commonwealth Development Authority
/s/ Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director

All Treats, No Tricks
Knock on IT&E's door & YOU get the treat!
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While supplies last • GSM phones not offered in Tinian and Rota
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'No need for more land for training on Tinian'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tinian will play a key role in the $15 billion multi-year military buildup in Guam, but the U.S. military does not need to acquire new property on the island, according to a top official of the Joint Guam Program Office.

Matthew Gagelin of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy's JGPO said yesterday that Tinian will be used for training Marine Corps forces, but that there is no need to acquire more land.

Gagelin discussed the Guam military build up and its effect on the region at the ongoing Pacific Judicial Council's Biennial Conference at the Fiesta Resort and Spa's Hibiscus Hall.

At this point, Gagelin said, the plan for Tinian is only for related training in the Marine Corps forces that will be stationed in Guam.

Initial training plans for Tinian, Gagelin said, will be for small arms' ranges.

"There will be Marine Expeditionary Force training where the Marines will be brought in at sea and will stay [on Tinian] for probably a week at a time and then they move back to Guam," he said.

He said the military is currently doing firing training on Tinian but no live firing.

"I don't know exactly when they are going to start the facilities on Tinian. I think it is probably a couple of years down the road," he said.

Gagelin also belied news reports about a lack of transparency or coordination with government leaders about the buildup.

"We've been on Tinian several times, discussing with the mayor. We've consulted the mayor," he stressed.

Gagelin pointed out that there's a lot of behind-the-scene coordination that are not reported in the news.

"This military buildup needs cooperation and acceptance by the people," he said.

In an later interview, Gagelin said they estimate the Guam military buildup to benefit 2,000 to 3,000 workers from the CNMI, Federated States of Micronesia, or from U.S. territories in Micronesia.

He said there is also a desire to place training facilities in Pagan.

"We'll probably see some development many years down the road in those areas," he said.

As for Saipan, Gagelin said, a study to build a facility here is being evaluated, but that they do not anticipate doing that at this time. He said this is the same with Rota.

Among the buildup's anticipated effects on Guam and Micronesia is an increase in economic activities, greater military presence, increase in allied/joint training, and more humanitarian/relief efforts.

Gagelin said the bidding for a lot of construction contracts will be in Hawaii, but some will also be shifted to Guam.

Under this buildup, he said, the long-term impacts to Guam is a 30,000 growth in population, 12,500 in military labor growth, and 7,000 in civilian military growth.

With respect to growth in key socio-economic areas, there will be 148 in education, 40 in public health and social services, and 100 for public safety.

On the economic activity, he said, the civilian labor income will be $278 million and $102 million in Guam GRT.

Pacific Judicial Council ends today

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left to right, Associate Justice Laurence Kenbaroy from Yap, Associate Justice Midasy Aisek from Chuuk and CNMI Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja.

The Pacific Judicial Council concludes its four-day conference at the Fiesta Resort and Spa today.

In the last general session of the gathering, there will be brief reports from each of the 10 jurisdictions on administrative team development since the PJC executive team training in Palau this February.

A farewell lunch and the official closing will be presided over by CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan.

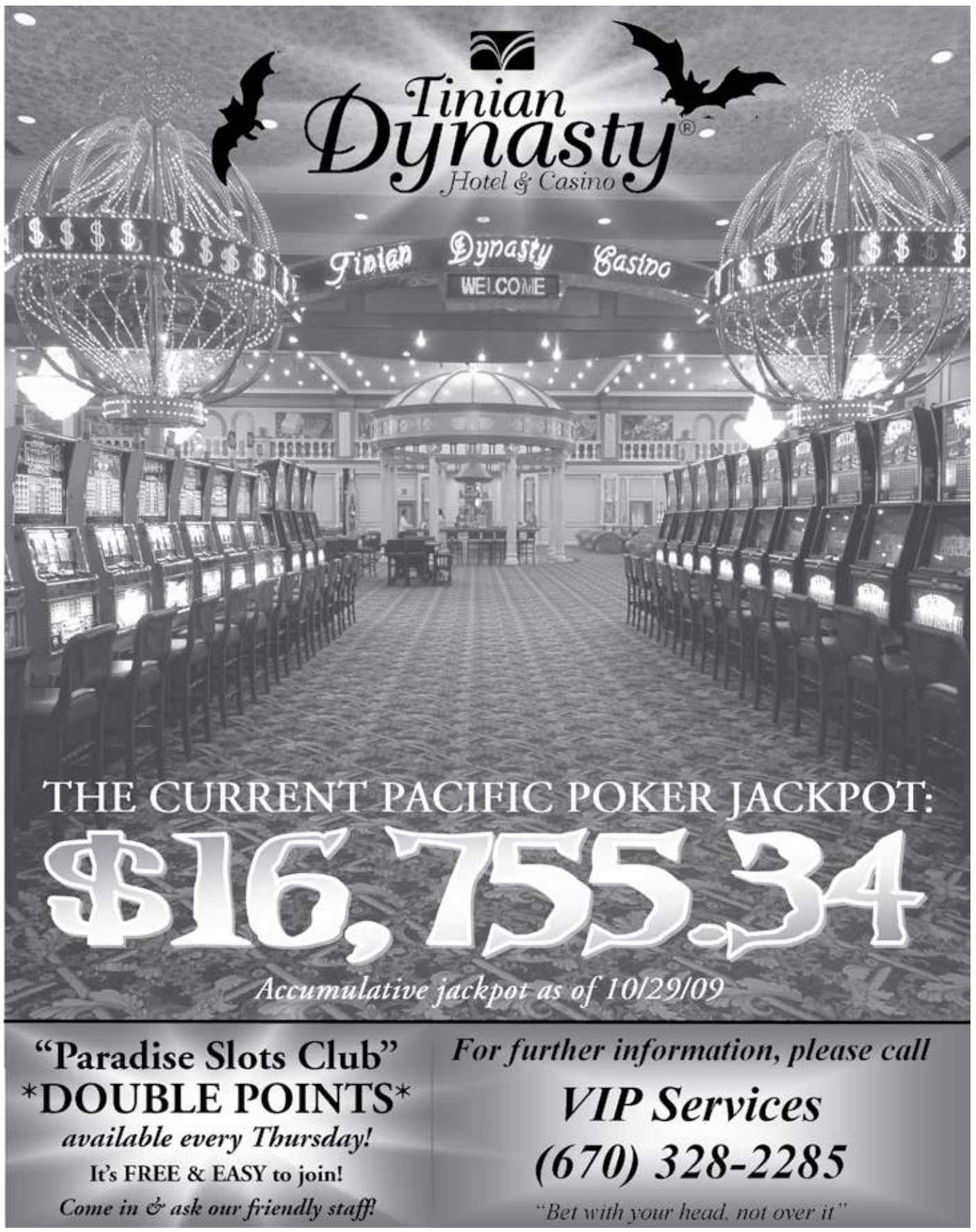
On Wednesday, American Samoa Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Kruse was the day's master of ceremonies and the two morning sessions, focused on domestic violence adjudication, were led by Joan Zorza Esq., founding editor, *Domestic Violence / Sexual Assault Report.*

At lunch Matthew Gagelin, Esq., with the Joint Guam Program Office, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, spoke to an attentive audience including Saipan Bar Association and Chamber of Commerce members on the regional effects of the U.S. military buildup in Guam.

In the afternoon Kathleen M. Burch, associate professor at the John Marshall Law School in Atlanta, Georgia, discussed the enforcement of judgments.

The final session of the day was an interactive discussion titled "Courts as Cultural Mediators in Domestic Violence" with panelists that included judges Kenneth Govendo, Aliksa Aliksa, Ramona Manglona, Honora E. Remengesau-Rudimch, Anita Sukola, Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, and Joan Zorza.

The Pacific Judicial Counsel is composed of the judiciaries of the CNMI, Guam, the Republic of Palau, American Samoa, and the Federated States of Micronesia. ***(PR)***



MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a Board of Trustees Special Meeting to be held on Friday, October 30, 2009 beginning at 10:00 AM at the MPLT Conference Room, Suite #107, Morgen Building; Saipan, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

I PRELIMINARIES
- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda

II OLD BUSINESS
- GF Distribution Status Update re: P.L. 10-29 Amendment
- Rota Gaming Commission Loan Request
- Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan Loan Request

III EXECUTIVE SESSION
At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

IV MISCELLANEOUS

V ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Phillip Mendiola-Long, AIF
Chairman, Board of Trustees

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950 • Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

VICENTE T. SALAS
Law Office of Vicente T. Salas
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427 • Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

F. MATTHEW SMITH
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
P.O. Box 501127, San Jose Village, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427 • Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,

Plaintiff,

-vs-

FELIPE Q. ATALIG, ESTATE OF PHYLLIS ATALIG LEUTA, RON B. ATALIG, and ERIC B. ATALIG,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 03-0639C

NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Felipe Q. Atalig, in the following described, real property situated in Garapan, Saipan CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot No. 007 D 25, land situated in South Garapan, Saipan, CM, known as Lot No. 007 D 25, and containing an area of 702 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 007 D 00, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 653, on the 27th day of November 1970, including **Casa de Felipe** and all other improvements located therein;

and

Lot No. 007 D 26, land situated in South Garapan, Saipan, CM, known as Lot No. 007 D 26 (formerly known as Lot 6, Block 34), and containing an area of 702 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 007 D 00, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 653, on the 27th day of November 1970, including **Casa de Felipe** and all other improvements located thereon.

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, October 30, 2009**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before and specific property is struck off, without incurring and liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 2357147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auctions sale. All payments much be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change of changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Felipe Q. Atalig, individually and dba Casa de Felipe, and Elvira Custodio Atalig in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 6th day of October 2009.

/s/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,

Plaintiff,

-vs-

FELIPE Q. ATALIG, individually & dba CASA DE FELIPE and, ELVIRA CUSTODIO ATALIG,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 04-0242B

NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Felipe Q. Atalig, individually and dba Casa de Felipe, and Elvira Custodio Atalig in the following described, real property situated in Ginalayan, Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Real estate mortgage on **Tract No. 21769-R2-2**, situated in Ginalayan, Rota, CNMI, Containing an area of 900 square meters, more of less, as shown on the Subdivision Survey Plat of Tract 21796-R2, DLS Check No. 3007/95, recorded as File No. 95-841, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on April 05, 1995, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith;

and

Real estate mortgage on **Tract No. 21769-R2-3**, situated in Ginalayan, Rota, CNMI, containing an area of 900 square meters, more of less, as shown on the Subdivision Survey Plat of Tract 21796-R2, DLS Check No. 3007/95, recorded as File No. 95-841, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on April 05, 1995, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith;

and

Real estate mortgage on **Tract No. 21769-R2-4**, situated in Ginalayan, Rota, CNMI, containing an area of 900 square meters, more of less, as shown on the Subdivision Survey Plat of Tract 21796-R2, DLS Check No. 3007/95, recorded as File No. 95-841, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on April 05, 1995, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith;

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, October 30, 2009**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before and specific property is struck off, without incurring and liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 2357147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auctions sale. All payments much be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change of changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Felipe Q. Atalig, individually and dba Casa de Felipe, and Elvira Custodio Atalig in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 6th day of October 2009.

/s/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,

Plaintiff,

-vs-

ANTONIO S. CAMACHO, ELPHIDIA MSP.CAMACHO, CNMI DIVISION OF REVENUE AND TAXATION ,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 04-0588C

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, having reschedule the earlier noticed auction, hereby give notice that all of the rights, title, and interest of the Defendants Antonio S. Camacho and Elphidia MSP. Camacho, jointly and severally, in the following described, leases of real property situated at the commercial port of Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

25 Year Ground Lease (File No. 88-348)
- dated November 25, 1986
- between Antonio Salas Camacho and the Commonwealth Ports Authority
- of the certain tract parcel of and situated at the Commercial Ports, designated as **Lot No. 032 E 03**, containing an area of 5,043 square meters, (54,264.176 square feet), including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The rescheduled auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at 2:00 p.m., on Friday, October 30, 2009, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

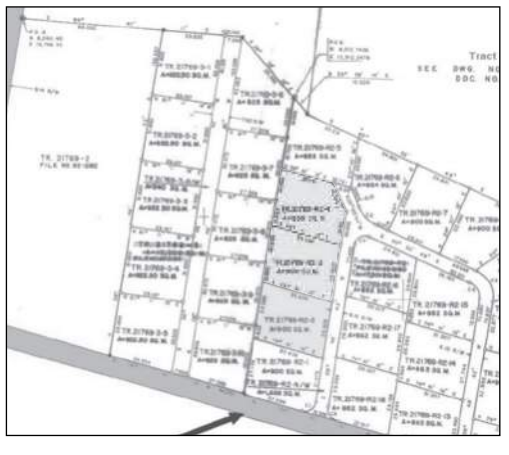
1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Right and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale of before A bid for such property is accepted
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O.BOX 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax:234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the lease, title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the Defendants Antonio S. Camacho and Elphidia MSP. Camacho in the lease and property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the lease or real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 6th day of October 2009.

/s/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

Casa de Felipe

Rota Properties



WESTPAC Lease & Improvements

Coalition gears up to send packages to troops

Operation CNMI Homefront Support is asking the community to provide the coalition with the names and addresses of local men and women currently serving the armed forces who will be away from home for the holidays. Their goal is to send a care package to all local military personnel who will be away from the islands this holiday season.

"This program was really well received by our troops last year and we want to let them know that we appreciate them and miss them," said John Hirsh of American Red Cross, "especially during the holiday season."

This is the second consecutive year Operation CNMI Homefront Support has organized care packages for CNMI men and women in uniform on active duty. Care packages from last year included locally printed t-shirts, newspapers, magazines, food, and letters from loved ones.

"What we really need right now is for local families to give us the names and addresses of their loved ones serving in the military," said Candice Dunston of the American Red Cross. "We need donations, of course, but our first priority is to identify the soldiers, sailors, pilots, and Marines to receive a care package."

Angelo O'Connor Villagomez, director of Community Service for the Rotary Club of Saipan, said, "We're looking to send a care package to every one of our hometown heroes who is off defending our country, whether they be in Iraq, Afghanistan, South Korea or the United States."

Operation CNMI Homefront Support is sponsored by the American Red Cross, Marianas Cable Vision, and Rotary Club of Saipan. Names and addresses can be forwarded to Candice Dunston at homefrontsupport@nmi.redcross.org. Contact the Red Cross Chapter for additional information 234-3459. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamorro radio talk show lineup

This Saturday, Oct. 31, 2009, the Marianas Agupa Chamorro radio talk show on Magic 100.3FM, hosted by Glenn H. Manglona, will feature the following special guests.

■ From 9:05am to 9:20am, Thomas D. Mendiola of Rota.

■ From 9:25am to 9:45am, former Tinian senator David Cing

■ From 9:45am to 10:15am, Raymond Camacho, Frank Camacho and Eric Atalig, members of the Neighborhood Watch

■ From 10:15am to 11am, Jesus Taisague and Danny Quitugua from the group "Citizens for retaining Article XII"

The phone line at the radio station will be open for questions during the show. Tune in for more on Magic 100.3 FM this Saturday from 9am 11am. Live Internet broadcast on www.magic100radio.com will also be available. ***(PR)***

HA-LAFF-WEEN
Halloween Bash
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2009
at CLUB SPARTACUS
Drag Show & Competition
All Night
Party starts at 9:00 p.m.
$5 Admission
Tickets can be purchased at Club Spartacus and from Arlene 483-5436 • Garry 789-1736
• Elsa 483-1041• Teddy 483-7091 • Bernard 233-8769 or call 285-9308 for more information.

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Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jacinta M. Kaipat, Fernando M. Romolor, Treasurer

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 29, 1999

Stay away from cemetery—Teno

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday ruled out deployment of police and public safety personnel to the Lower Base Cemetery, which he ordered off-limits to residents due to possible contamination from the cancer-causing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) chemical found present in the area. Instead he appealed to residents not to venture into the cemetery even during the observance of All Soul's Day next week for their own safety. Tenorio on Wednesday ordered the temporary closure of the area as he expressed concern on the presence of PCBs through toxic waste left way back in the '60s. "We put out the notice because we want to make sure that the life and health of our people are protected," the governor told reporters yesterday.

US Army engineers arrive

A Honolulu-based contractor hired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will begin installing plastic sheets and crushed stones today to cover the area contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), a cancer-causing chemical present at the Lower Base Cemetery. According to Frank Ono, civil engineer of the Army Corps, installation of the temporary cap is expected to be finished on Saturday. Ono is here to oversee the work done by the contractor who flew in from Hawaii. A day after Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio ordered the closure of the Lower Base cemetery, people still troop to the site to spruce up the graveyard of their relatives in time for All Soul's Day.

Oct. 29, 2001

CUC kills 60MW power plant project

It took a long time to die but on Friday, the proposed 60-megawatt power plant project on Saipan gave a last gasp and expired. In a unanimous vote, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Board of Directors voted to cancel the project in light of the worsening economic condition and the determination that CUC's power needs can be addressed in a much less expensive approach. The cancellation of the power plant project directly arose from the move of the board to accept the recommendations made by Burns & McDonnel, a power consulting firm, which was also the same company that initially recommended the power plant project in a 1999 study.

Insular areas appeal for inclusion in $100B economic stimulus plan

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio and the governors of three other US insular areas on Friday appealed to the US Senate that their territories be included in the $100-billion economic stimulus plan that was passed by the House on Thursday. A joint letter from the CNMI, Guam, American Samoa, and the US Virgin Islands urged the Senate to address the insular areas' unique needs in the stimulus package. "Our islands have been especially hard hit by the downturn in the economy since the September 11 tragedy," part of the letter read. "We do not have the safety nets the [other] states have to cushion the effects of the economic crisis." The letter was addressed to Senate Majority Leader Thomas A. Daschle and Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott.

Oct. 29, 2002

Anti-terror preparedness pressed

In the face of a global fright emanating from various acts of terrorism, House legislators believe that there has never been a better time to fix the CNMI's shortcomings when it comes to dealing with terrorism threats or, God forbid, the actual scenario. Fresh from attending a bio-terrorism preparedness conference in Palau, House Vice Speaker Manuel A. Tenorio and Rep. Ray Tebuteb underscored the need for the Northern Marianas to set up a comprehensive bio-terrorism preparedness mechanism that involves various local agencies.

FAA takes over Saipan airport

The Federal Aviation Administration is expected to officially implement its rollout program at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport midnight of October 29, 2002, as federal screeners take charge of all checkpoint areas at the air transport facility. Security program at the Saipan airport is now 100 percent under the federal government, with newly hired screeners immediately dispatched at the airport's departure area. "The airport is now fully federalized and screeners handling the inspection are all federal government agents. The FAA is now in full control of the airport," Commonwealth Ports Authority Executive Director Carlos H. Salas said.

JOETEN 60th ANNIVERSARY

Joeten's Best Buys of the Week!

October 29 to November 4

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Sahara Floral Brick
99¢

Silk Flowers
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Glaze Pottery 14 inch
$18.99

Glaze Pottery 12 inch
$14.99

Glaze Pottery 9 inch
$8.99

Funeral Basket $5.99

Wicker Baskets
25%off

Halloween Costumes & Accessories
30%off

Ready Made Memorial Wreaths
25%off

SUSUPE SHOPPING CENTER
TEL.: 234-6446
THRU SAT. 8:00A.M. - 9:00P.M. / SUN. 8:00A.M. - 7:00P.M.

DANDAN SUPERMARKET
TEL.: 235-6016
MON. THRU SAT. 8:00A.M. - 9:00P.M.

HAFA-ADAI SHOPPING CENTER
TEL.: 234-7596
MON. THRU SUN. 8:00A.M. - 11:00P.M.

KAGMAN MARKET
TEL.: 256-6441
MON. THRU SAT. 8:00A.M.-10:00P.M.

Supermarket

ALOHA MAID
Pinapple Orange, Lilikoi Passion, Green Tea with Golden Honey 11.5oz.
$9.29 case

ROYAL MILLS
Iced Cappuccino, Kona Black 325ml.
85¢ each

GENUINE **PARTS.** GENUINE **SERVICE.** GENUINE **PEACE OF MIND.**

POWER 65 Battery

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NAPA AUTO PARTS
MARIANAS NAPA, INC.
WE SELL PARTS FOR ALL KINDS OF CARS & TRUCKS

JOETEN ACE HARDWARE

FOR ALL SOULS DAY!

6" Width Green Carpet Outdoor
sku# 570029
$5.99 per feet

12" Width Green Carpet Outdoor
sku# 570030
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

The politics of war

Tons of explosives, suicide bombers in coordinated attacks and triple-digit death tolls. The wreckage at the Iraqi Justice Ministry and Baghdad's provincial council headquarters this week, like the devastation at the Foreign and Finance ministries in August, is a reminder that foreign powers cannot impose peace on a divided nation. Two years after a U.S. troop "surge" helped tamp down Iraq's sectarian war, the bloodletting illustrates why military advances must be accompanied by a steady march of political progress. This is true in Iraq and it's true in Afghanistan, where President Obama is weighing deployment of up to 40,000 more troops to battle Taliban insurgents.

Former President George W. Bush sent tens of thousands of additional soldiers to Iraq in 2007 to provide security and create conditions that would allow for ethnic and political reconciliation. Sectarian conflict has diminished overall, but the Shiites and Sunnis, Kurds and Arabs have failed to address fundamental issues of wealth and power-sharing at the root of the violence. The immediate deadlock centers on a proposed law to regulate parliamentary elections on Jan. 16, particularly in the disputed, oil-rich city of Kirkuk. Failure to hold the vote could leave a political vacuum after the current parliament loses its mandate and there is no new legislature to select a prime minister. It also could delay the departure of U.S. combat troops by August and the rest of U.S. forces in 2011.

The bombings bear the hallmarks of Sunni extremists seeking to overthrow U.S.-backed Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, who has been campaigning with his Shiite allies on a record of improving security. Even many moderate Sunnis distrust the Shiite majority and are apprehensive about the U.S. withdrawal. But while the United States can continue to train and aid Iraqi security forces, the violence will not cease until the parties come to a political accommodation. Only Iraqis can pass an election law, decide what kind of government they want and divide the country's oil revenue. Resolving these problems will weaken extremists and diminish violence.

This is instructive for those seeking to pacify Afghanistan with more soldiers. U.S. and Afghan troops can fight to clear areas of Taliban insurgents, but absent a legitimate government, the fighting will not stop. President Hamid Karzai's agreement to a runoff in an election tainted by fraud is a step forward, but there's more to be done to address corruption and win support for the government over insurgents. As Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., said after returning from Kabul, "The legitimate government of Afghanistan cannot be less accountable than the Taliban." That's a prescription for war, not peace.

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DON'T CUT US, CUT THEM!
DON'T TAX US, TAX THEM!
DON'T MANDATE US, MANDATE THEM!
DON'T FINE US, FINE THEM!
DON'T CAP US, CAP THEM!
DON'T TAX US, TAX THEM!
SENIORS
UNIONS
INSURANCE COs.
EMPLOYERS
DOCTORS
MEDICAL SUPPLIERS
GOOD NEWS.. WE'RE SEEING A GROWING CONSENSUS IN POSITIONS ON THE HEALTH CARE DEBATE!

Awakened citizenry

By JAIME VERGARA
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's *Opinion Section*

The Estonians defied the Nazis and the Russians by asserting their cultural symbols, particularly their banned songs, and prevailed over incredible oppression through what is now known globally as the "Singing Revolution." While that has since received worldwide acclaim, it would not have been an easy feat at the time of its creation and implementation.

The Civil Rights movement, the anti-poverty forces, and the anti-war movement joined efforts in the late '60s and early '70s in opposing the Vietnam War. It cost Lyndon Johnson a second term, and we inflicted upon American politics the enigmatic personality of Richard Nixon.

The people power in the Philippines in the mid-'80s, which saw the religious and secular matrons, university students and taxi drivers lay their bodies between military battalions and rebelling young armed forces officers, cost the ailing Ferdinand Marcos his presidency and enshrined a yellow-draped housewife into the embrace of the Filipino people and the hearts of an awakening citizenry around the world. "People Power" has since become a battle cry in many parts of the world.

A Chicago Southside community organizer prevailing over an entrenched and well-respected former first lady in a party primary, and a triumph over a well-decorated veteran of Vietnam for the nation's primal executive office, rang a death knell to American exceptionalism (the sense that "we, the people," by divine providence, are meant to guide, if not rule over an unenlightened world) and its concomitant imperial policies and designs, particularly in the harvest and management of fossil fuel located in strategic places around the world, and ushered a turning into eco-democracy that is in the process of taking form across the planet

I hesitate to use dichotomies for they often mislead more than enlighten, but to say for the moment that there are two forms of citizen's awakenment manifest across the Union might be momentarily helpful. The first is symbolized by 9/11 that unleashed an epidemic of fear focusing on threat, real and imagined. The second culminated in the Obama family's entry into 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., a harbinger of a discovery that we can, and we will, is a choice we can make—the audacity to hope, as it were.

The epidemic of fear is widespread, fanned by GWB's patently hopeful religious metaphor of millennialism turned morbid by those who turned it into a foreign policy of imperial exceptionalism, and into military strategies of impersonal Armageddon accompanied by the assault on terror with the reign of terror itself.

Not unlike the misplaced flower in Picasso's *Guernica,* the seeds of hope blossomed and flourished nevertheless, in small nooks and crannies of our common existence, of bright students forgoing the MBA of greed for something more meaningfully significant, for soldiers listening to their conscience and bucking senseless posting without clear and acceptable rationale, of countless otherwise ordinary citizens refusing the power of corrupt political authority over the authority of authenticity where accountability and transparency rules the day.

I bumped into a young Chamorro acquaintance recently. He was sporting dark glasses and looking a tad morose. Having not seen him awhile, I enticed his company for a cup of coffee and being respectful of age, my junior of considerable age difference, he reluctantly complied. I had known him to be a bubbly and ebullient personality so I was curious on what brought about the change in style and demeanor. Sheepishly, he explained that he was avoiding his family and kin, particularly his mom, because his uncle was running for office and he is being pressured to give his public support. Obviously, he has strong reservations over his uncle's candidacy.

In the '70s, a maternal uncle was one of President Marcos' close and well placed associates. A recent colleague, upon discovering this relationship, exclaimed: "You were that close and you are still working?!?!" Many members of my public high school class of 1960, a cream of the crop in Marcos' bailiwick, did well in Mr. Marcos' administration prior to and after he declared martial law in 1972, but my own career and profession took me to the other side of the aisle.

Though naturalized as a U.S. citizen in the early '80s, I continued to vote during Philippine elections but when it was time to find a replacement for Cory, it was clear that reactionary forces were still entrenched in power (Marcos ruled and was deposed with the active and later decline of support of many Chambers of Commerce), and I skipped town so as not to witness Marcos' distant cousin Fidel Ramos' election. The *politicos* did the Russian roulette but nothing had substantially changed. Thus, my sympathy goes to our young CNMI citizen, and all others stepping out of traditional expectations (dubbed recently as "corrupt" by one of our judicial luminaries) of family and kin.

See AWAKENED on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Life interrupted

By RIK and JANEL VILLEGAS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rik is a business instructor at NMC and Janel is a partner with BizResults, LLC (www.bizresults.org). They can be contacted at biz_results@yahoo.com.

This article was going to be on a different topic, but after suffering through a nine-hour power outage Tuesday, it snapped me back to reality and caused me to think about the serious issues we currently face in the CNMI. If multiple and extended power outages occurred in the U.S., or any other developed country, it would make national news and be a cause for serious investigation. Unfortunately, we've come to accept mediocrity as the norm and have lowered our expectations in far too many things for far too long.

It's not just the lack of reliable electricity, but also the many other major issues that affect the economy, quality of education, hospital services, etc. We are at a critical juncture where you have the power to make a difference and voice your concern. Next week you will decide which public servants will take the reins of the political beast and what direction they will take us for the next few years.

We've invested 12 years of our lives here, and in that time we have seen the CNMI at the top of the economic roller coaster and then take a wild ride down. Three of our children were born on Saipan and I've taught many of your children and have seen them develop into professional workers and businesspeople who are making a real contribution to the community. Even though the economy has not fully recovered, and we continue to have deteriorating services at CUC and CHC, there are not many places that can compete with the positive benefits what Saipan has to offer. It continues to be one of the world's best kept secrets. But it could be more.

Our real frustration is that we know the potential that still exists here and that remains to be developed. However, because of the lack of awareness, initiative, chutzpah, leadership, or direction, we continue to put up with poor service, rude behavior, and numerous excuses. We turn a blind eye to rampant corruption and unethical practices, and in so doing encourage more of it. We live a life interrupted—a life that expects not only less of others, but of ourselves. This creates a situation where we become satisfied with less and can't concentrate fully on the higher values of life because the basic necessities are still lacking. It zaps the zest for living, and creates a life less fulfilled.

We are living in paradise, but squandering the blessings that we have. We've come to accept mediocrity because that's just the way it's always been. We continually lower our standards so we can congratulate ourselves on meeting them. Unless and until we take a stand and say that we are fed up and not going to take it any more, things will not change. We will continue to have extended power outages, non-potable water, substandard medical services, high turnover of highly qualified teachers, doctors, and other professionals, and a mass migration of citizens looking for something better, somewhere else.

We have seen our share of savvy politicos who can crank out a slick plan that include alluring slogans and carefully worded sound bites that cause their constituents to swoon. However, when the rubber meets the road, the plans seem to disappear and nothing is said about the previous promises during re-election.

A plan is good, but the intent and character of the individuals running for office is even more important. Are they the kind of people who will follow through on their promises? Do they, in their hearts, want the best for the CNMI as a whole? Are they willing to make the tough decisions and do what is necessary to get us moving in a direction that will turn this place into the paradise it has the potential to become. Once that happens, we won't have to spend millions trying to convince tourists to visit. This place will naturally beckon more guests to visit and tell others about its wonders. Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will have a quality of life that is enviable.

You can determine the destiny of the islands by going to the voting booth and voting with your conscience. The next four years will be monumental for the CNMI because there are so many important decisions to be made. You have the obligation and opportunity to choose the representatives who will make those critical decisions and enact the laws that will impact everyone. You will decide if we will continue to live a life interrupted, or live life to its fullest.

Letters to the Editor

CUC does not need to raise rates

Dear Mr. Muña: Thank you for sending your brief response to the paper. I believe it is always useful for considered discussion regarding points of contention presented. I mention "points of contention" specifically since your letter did not address any of them initially presented. Instead you chose to try and point out a "contradiction" in my letter. However, the statements you cited were taken as miniscule snippets out of context with the letter itself. When addressed as a whole, the letter is not contradictory in any way.

The entire thing can be boiled down to simplicity and its overall meaning summarized as: CUC does *not* need to raise rates (or cause tax increases) in order to give the public refunds (or credits) of ill-gotten gains from illegal rates. Also described were eight possible ways for CUC to improve which may allow refunds or even greater benefits *without* raising rates. I wish you would have addressed some or all of them instead of trying to force the focus away from productive discussions. Forget the lawsuit—stipulate to its concerns and move on!

Of further interest is President Obama's speech on energy programs presented today in southern Florida at the dedication of Florida Power and Light's new 180-acre solar power production site. He specifically mentioned that new ARRA money is *now* being made available to communities to upgrade inefficient or outdated utility transmission lines and services. As pointed out in one of my suggestions, this upgrade would seriously improve the cost of power on Saipan. Along with that, continuing programs of solar and wind power suitable for Saipan at the private consumer level are eligible for very substantive federal assistance. This is important (at the federal level) for Saipan since, unlike most other states, the NMI offers *no* incentives for such installations other than a forgiveness of import duties and taxes—a miniscule amount to be sure.

Another point of interest to President Obama's speech was the part he left out. That is that Florida Power and Light has *increased* utility rates to its customers on the solar system by 7 cents per kWh (that's about $70 per month for the average residential customer) *solely* as a surcharge on top of regular rates to pay for the new solar array—for *10 years.* Commercial solar power is not cheap! Other power in southern Florida is produced by gas, coal, diesel and nuclear. The current rate is about 10 cents per kWh—it has now gone up to 17 cents per kWh solely due to the addition of a commercial solar array for about 3,500 residential homes.

Instead of trying to find technical fault with letter writing skills by comparing extracted snippets, it would serve the community well if the issues at hand would be directly addressed and discussed. CUC does *not* need to raise rates to pay the refunds, but it must address the issues presented. President Obama coincidentally addressed several of the points made in my last letter. He specifically stated that utility companies who address things such as distribution systems, alternative power sources, including nuclear, and install devices such as smart meters, pre-paid power, and address administrative fees stand to save the public *billions* of dollars in the delivered cost of power.

CUC *must* begin addressing the points of my letter, now, if it is to survive as an essential community service. And, Heinz, in case you are reading this, *broaden* your scope of thinking: the new, *safe*, small nuclear modules (also mentioned by the president) are the *best, safest* and *cheapest* way for the NMI to solve its power crisis—permanently.

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.
San Jose, Tinian

Answers to political science lesson

Having the answers to my lesson may actually do some future good, especially for the political science students from the CNMI. The events surrounding the ARRA issue offered the conditions for a good political lesson and I was more interested in the future effects of the lesson than the right here and now. It was never personal and the purpose and need for the lesson far outweighed the interest of a single individual. Below are the answers or factors in the political science lesson I wrote titled "Challenge Accepted but not Appreciated." The lesson would be rated at the master's course level.

Base your arguments on the accepted values and principles we live by as Americans—a solid foundation with character that can't be broken or blemished.

Base your arguments on the law and the facts.

Take a real stand and defend your arguments based on the merits, with the tenacity of a Clarence Darrow and the heart and passion of the founders of America and always keep in mind our sons and daughters who put their lives on the line for these values and principles you are arguing for. Put your heart in your argument and give it feeling, meaning, and a purpose. Learn to tell the *best* story when compared to your opponent's because *the lawyer who tells the best story is usually the lawyer who wins the case* (John Quincy Adams).

Politicians and Cabinet members should never pick a fight with a voter, unless they have all their Ts crossed, all their reports and documents lined up, all their facts, answers, and solutions on hand.

Good politicians don't try to flip an issue on the opposition. You are the only one being held accountable. Do your homework and be prepared to defend yourself.

Good politicians are always professional—tactful, polite and respectful—when you know you are being confronted by a person capable of costing you political real estate. This is especially true when the politician has *everything* to lose in an election and the individual has nothing to lose.

Good politicians and public servants who should process *"civic virtue"* don't put personal preference over the law and fail to perform their sworn duty when they are accountable, especially, when the issue has the potential to come back and literally bite you. The failure to appoint a teacher rep is your reference for this answer.

Good politicians, especially at the executive level, must stay ahead of the game and get their acts together for what is coming down the tubes—they knew ARRA was coming long before we got any money. There should have been plans ready to execute the moment the law was signed, especially when the law was meant to help people and it had "RUSH" stamped in bold letters on the front page.

Good politicians, especially at the executive level, can't let their administration come dead last when compared to other counterparts in the American political family, especially at election time.

Kknow your limitations and abilities compared to your opponent and exploit their weakness—not their strengths. Make the phone call to activists. Writing a public challenge in the paper to someone like me was a master disaster that played into one of my strengths.

I hope these answers are appreciated and will help future politicians and maybe even help make a difference in the present politics of the CNMI. If I'm going to write, I may as well make it worthwhile by teaching a lesson that will have the potential to make the politics of the CNMI more professional, more efficient in governing and to continue building awareness of citizens by exposing the need for real accountability and transparency in our government..

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

AWAKENED

From Page 10

The awakened citizenry in the CNMI took a quiet turn with the election of Tina Sablan to the 16th Legislature. Her subsequent performance made a dramatic demonstration that politics in its current legislative form can be transformed, and done well. We would be foolish not to send her to the upper chamber of that legislative hall.

Being a skeptical democrat with a small "d" thinking that no substantial change can be brought about by the election process, which simply promotes representational (republican) democracy without mass participation of constituents beyond the election, the entry of social activist Democrat with a big "D" Angelo to be mayor of Saipan is a challenge to those of us ivory tower eggheads to declare our commitments, if not our loyalties, and join the fray, being clear that this is just the beginning and not by any means an end.

Among fellow VoteCNMI conversants are those who expound on what/who they are against more than what/who they are for. As a microcosm of society, we too have proponents of the climate of fear, as there are prophets of the era of hope. But clearly, we have an awakened group. That counts for something.

The election countdown begins. We head for the polls on the 7th of November, and this time, I am not skipping town.

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Rain	▲84	▼76
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼77
Yap	Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Chuuk	Rain	▲87	▼76
Pohnpei	Rain	▲86	▼74
Kosrae	Partly Sunny	▲88	▼76
Majuro	Rain	▲83	▼77

Around The Globe

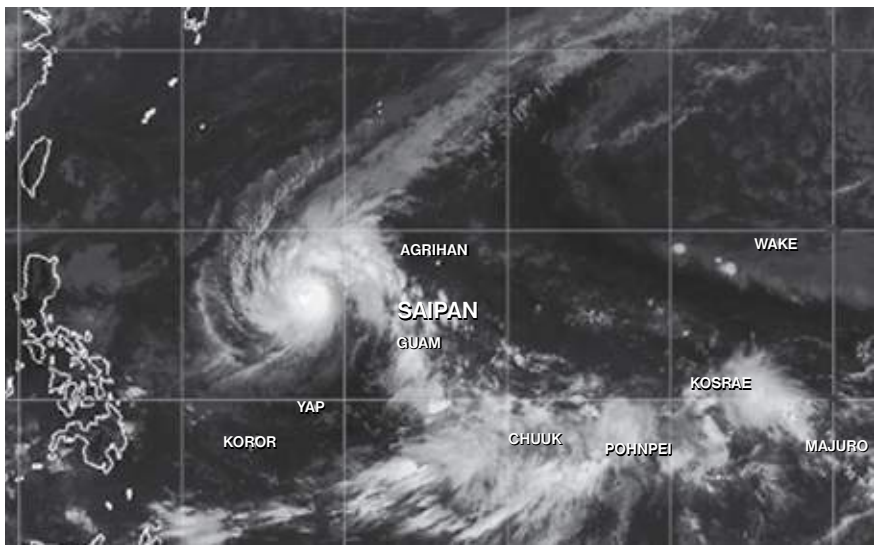
Auckland	Showers	▲59	▼50
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼45
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲84	▼73
Honolulu	Showers	▲84	▼74
London	Cloudy	▲66	▼54
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲72	▼52
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼75
Melbourne	Showers	▲80	▼62
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼77
New York	Cloudy	▲61	▼51
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲71	▼54
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲64	▼51
Pusan	Showers	▲71	▼55
Rome	Partly Sunny	▲69	▼46
Salem	Rain	▲58	▼50
San Francisco	Sunny	▲67	▼51
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲68	▼50
Tokyo	Showers	▲63	▼55
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲64	▼49

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:45 AM Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
10:07 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
4:45 PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
11:17 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2009

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Mirinae (23W) is centered near 16N138E moving west at 20 mph with maximum sustained winds of 85 mph. Showers and scattered thunderstorms are found within 100 miles of the center. For more information on Tropical Storm 23W, see JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and NWS bulletins issued under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. The monsoon trough arcs northeastward from 13N130E to Mirinae then turns southeastward to 5N160E to end at EQ175E. Convergent low-level winds are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 250 miles of a line from 5N143E to 8N158E. This area includes Chuuk and Pohnpei. Trade-winds converging north of the monsoon trough are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Guam within 60 miles of a line from 13N144E to 10N145E and within 100 miles of a line from 15N135E to 19N137E to 19N141E to 16N142E. A cold front extends westward from 16N180 to 18N160E. Cloudiness and patchy rain are found along and up to 100 miles north of boundary. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers north of Kosrae and Kwajalein within 80 miles of two separate lines from 6N161E to 8N163E and from 11N163E to 8N168E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:12 AM	5:49 PM
Friday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM
Saturday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Sunday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Monday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	2:34 PM	2:00 AM
Friday	3:10 PM	2:48 AM
Saturday	3:47 PM	3:36 AM
Sunday	4:26 PM	4:27 AM
Monday	5:10 PM	5:21 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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Saipan kid named student envoy

Saipan-born Josh Macaranas, who currently attends Otay Ranch High School in Chula Vista, California, San Diego County as a 10th grader, has been named a Student Ambassador for his school and will travel to England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales in Summer 2010 for 20 days.

"I am very excited about this trip since I have never traveled internationally," said Macaranas, 15, who was nominated by his teacher and selected by People to People to become a Student Ambassador. "I was very lucky to get selected since there were several students nominated throughout San Diego."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Josh Macaranas, who currently attends Otay Ranch High School in Chula Vista, California, San Diego County, has been named a Student Ambassador for his school.

Macaranas started his preparatory school in Sister Remedios School and spent up to third grade in Mount Carmel School.

"I was also honored to be chosen and to represent my culture in this program," he added.

Student Ambassadors represent their school, community, state, and country while traveling abroad. They learn about other cultures, engage in fun activities, and meet local citizens. Student Ambassadors come from diverse backgrounds, but share common traits: a curious and adventurous spirit, an open mind and heart, the desire to learn about other cultures and people, and the belief in President Eisenhower's vision that each person can make a difference and help to achieve peace through understanding.

People to People aims to provide students with access to people and places beyond compare, preparing them for success in a globalized world by making friends locally and globally. Student Ambassadors visit schools, experience homestays, absorb world culture through firsthand exploration, meet with government experts, and enjoy unique insider access to significant people and places.

Student Ambassadors prepare for this experience well in advance and are asked to keep a daily journal and participate fully in all activities for academic credit. Students build their leadership skills while working as a team with other students and making friends in a well-supervised environment of cultural exploration. Comparing cultures and ways of life helps students promote peace through understanding.

The People to People movement dates back more than half a century to its founding by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956. Eisenhower was acting on his firm belief that direct interaction between ordinary citizens around the world can promote cultural understanding and world peace. That legacy of hope lives on in People to People Ambassador Programs on seven continents.

In addition, fundraising efforts will be done by the family, the parents Anthony and Cindy Macaranas to assist in this travel and tuition for the entire program. Any minimal monetary assistance will be appreciated. For questions, you can e-mail Cindy at cpmacaranas@yahoo.com or Josh at jc_macaranas@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

OBP Hall of Fame nominations due Nov. 10

Off the Beaten Path announces the presentation of its biennial Hall of Fame award. Nominations must be submitted by e-mail to obpcnmi@gmail.com by Nov. 10, 2009.

The Hall of Fame is a way of recognizing CNMI residents who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to the social and cultural enrichment of the Commonwealth. OBP is now accepting nominations of individuals deserving of this award. Nominees must be a resident of the CNMI and should exhibit some or all of the following qualities: Interest in community service; Dedication to the advancement of humanity; Respect for cultural preservation; Volunteerism; Strong character and charisma; Leadership and Altruism.

This year's winner will be honored at the Thanksmas celebration to be held at the Hyatt Regency on Dec. 5, 2009. The proceeds from Thanksmas will be donated to the Autism Society of the CNMI.

ThanksMas is sponsored Peroni, Kendall Jackson and Skyy Vodka. Tickets are on sale now with any OBP member; send an email to obpcnmi@gmail.com or call 285-7677. ***(PR)***

BRIDGE CAPITAL DONATION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bridge Capital, LLC donates $200 in support *Arsenic and Old Lace*, a production by the Friends of the Arts. Dr. Susan Fishman-Tudor, president, and Marilou Conner, secretary, accepted the donation on behalf of the organization. Representing Bridge Capital were Richard A. Pipes, vice president and chief legal officer, and Lily Nguyen, public relations spokesperson and assistant to John K. Baldwin, chairman. Bridge Capital is a long-standing supporter of the arts and culture within the community. Since June this year, the company has already donated nearly $25,000 toward humanitarian, education and community wellness efforts.

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

PRINIPONEN ATKILON TANU PUBLIKU

Guaha priniponen atkilon tanu publiku giya Chalan Kanoa Tanu Numeru 014 H 01, poku mas o`menos Kiñientus Ochentai Ochu (588) metru kuatdrao.

Maseha haye libre muna` halom opiñion pot este na priniponen usun tanu publiku. Siña muna` halom hau sentimientu guato gi kabesanten tanu publiku gi maseha manu na offisinan tanu entre Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. Uttimu haane pot nina` halom opiñion i Nobembre dia 2, 2009.

I para u inatkila este na lugat i kompanian Mike's Manufacturing, Inc., kompania guine giya Marianas. I umiluluye este na kuetpon kompania i sigiente siha: Ji Young Shin, Eun Hie Shin, yan Bo Ok Shin. I offisiat siha: Eun Hie Shin, presidente; So Young Shin-Thouvenin, segundu presidente; Bo Ok Shin, sekretariu/tresurariu.

I man-atkikila para u usa i lugat para sagan kareta yan lokue sumasaonao ayo na fasilidat i humahatme gi tanu publiku. Este na atkilon si Señor Chang Wang Jang i munigosiu yan sumera i kontrata.

I tetminon este na kontrata para bente siñku años (25 years) ya libre lokue i umatkikila umekstende para talu kinse años (15 years) na tiempu.

I atkilon gaige gi monhayan na ripot mafananaan "appraisal", (ininan yan inestudian kuantu baliña i tanu publiku) ni para uma-atkila. I depattamienton tanu taya ha resibi otro propositu pot uson este na tanu publiku. I kopian i maproponen kontråtan atkilon siña machule' gi ofisinan Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku Siha, gaige gi sigundo(2nd) bibienda gi as Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan; i sigundo(2nd) bibienda gi Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luta; pat i primet(1st) pisu gi Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

I Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku siha ha risibi tåya' na tinahguen propositu siha para i atkilon suheton tåno' pupbliku giya Chalan Kanoa, Saipan.

ARONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALAWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap ekke isisiwow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eew falaweer toulap mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúw Kka Efáng, Marianas.

Toulap kka eyoor mafiyeer reel pomwol akkiloon yeel rebwe afangalong me bwal sángi Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, arong yeel ebwe akkatéwow.

i. Pomwol akkilonul falaweer toulap ye ekke bwáári bwe Lot No. 014 H 01, ebwe yoor 588 sq meters, e lapeló ngáre e ghittiw, elo Elal Ghaloowa Seipél. Tilighiyal bwuley yeel elo Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer toulap ngáre óubwe amweri.

ii. Schóóy Akkiloon nge Mike's Manufacturing, Inc. Corporationul CNMI. Board of Directors llól Corporation yeel nge Ji Young Shin, EUN Hie Shin me Bo Ok Shin.

Samwoolul Cooporation yeel nge Eun Hie Shin, Arúschayúl So Young Shin – Thouvenin. Secretary me Treasurer nge Bo Ok Shin.

iii. Pomwol akkiloon yeel nge sángi yaal aweewe Mr. Chang Whan Jang.

iv. Schóóy akkiloon ebwe yááyá bwuley reel parkingil ghareeta me encroaching building structure.

Tool pomwol akkiloon yeel nge 25 ráágh, me emmwel ebwe bwal sóbwusóbw ngáli 15 ráágh.

Pomwol akkiloonul llól ráágh nge ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél falúw (appraisal value) me bwal millikka e akkayú llól bwuley.

v. Pomwol Akkiloon yeel nge emmwel ebwe bweibwogh me Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap, 2nd floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg. Dandan, Seipél, 2nd floor Bank of Saipan Commercial Bldg, Luuta, me ngáre 1st floor Kings Commercial Bldg. Tchúlúyól.

vi. Ese yoor bwal eew pomwol akkiloon Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap e Amwuschi bwe iye schagh elo Elal Ghaloowa,Seipél.

vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap ebwe bwughi aghiyágh, Mángemáng me aingiing mereer schóókka re tipeli wóól me ngáre mmwal Ariyamoy 2, 2009, mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap mewóól Seipél, Tchúlúyól me Luuta.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 014 H 01, containing an area of approximately 588 square meters, more or less, situated in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is Mike's Manufacturing, Inc., a CNMI Corporation. The Board of Directors of the Corporation are Ji Young Shin, Eun Hie Shin, and Bo Ok Shin.

The President of the Corporation is Eun Hie Shin. The Vice President is So Young Shin-Thouvenin. The Secretary and Treasurer is Bo Ok Shin.

iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Chang Whan Jang.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of maintaining vehicular parking space and an encroaching commercial building structure.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property, including existing structure(s).

v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before November 2, 2009 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

Island Snapshots

ANNIVERSARY
Happy wedding anniversary to Jon and Connie as they celebrate their 25 years of love at Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NEWS BRIEFING
David G. Gulick, center, district director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for Hawaii, Guam and the CNMI, gestures during Tuesday's news briefing at the USCIS office in Garapan on the release of the interim final rule for transitional workers for the CNMI. He is flanked by USCIS field director for Guam and the CNMI Walter L. Haith, right, and community outreach regional lead Janna Evans.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT
Happy birthday greetings go out to Jose C. Naputi, who is celebrating his 10th birthday today, Oct. 29, 2009. May your special day be truly special, with prayers for more to come. Greetings come from your family.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy birthday to Emily Made, right, shown here with daughter Emrose. Hope you enjoyed your day and may the Lord continue to bless you! Love and joy come from your loving family, friends, and Harlee!
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DONATION
Joe Camacho, second from left, a candidate for Lt. Governor, presents a check donation to the Kagman Komunidat Association at the Kagman Gubernatorial Forum. Others in picture are, from left, Jesse Torres, KKA president; Ambrose Bennett, PIO; Daniel Huh, treasurer; and Martha Sablan, KKA vice president.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dr. David Borja, second from left, a candidate for Lt. Governor, presents a check donation to the Kagman Komunidat Association at the Kagman Gubernatorial Forum. Others in the picture are, from left, Martha Sablan, KKA vice president; Daniel Huh, treasurer; and Jesse Torres, KKA president.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings to John Auther, who is turning 10 today, Oct. 29, 2009. "Happy 10th birthday, John! Enjoy your day!" With all our love, Mom, Dad, Danny and Timmy.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated birthday greetings to Prisca Duenas Cabrera, seated, and her daughter Judith Duenas Cabrera, who celebrated their birthdays on Oct. 28 and Oct. 26 respectively. Greetings come from your friends and family.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

POLICE PROTEST
Police officers, their families and supporters hold a protest march from the Legislature to the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill Monday morning, demanding pay increase for eligible police officers and a desk audit at the Department of Public Safety. The protesters later held a closed-door meeting with Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, senior policy advisor Ray Mafnas, and Attorney General Edward Buckingham.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

MY WAVE CLEANUP
Members and advisors of the MY WAVE Club of Hopwood Jr. High School have their picture taken after their beach cleanup with the Division of Environmental Quality on Oct. 17. The cleanup was held at the Aboni Beach behind McDonald's Garapan to Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. This club activity aims to beautify the CNMI, attract more tourists to the islands, and to protect the environment.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

What recovery? Americans still gloomy on economy

AP

Alvaro Medina, of Creedmoor, N.C., looks at his receipt as he checks out at Super Target in Durham, N.C., Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2009.

CHICAGO (AP)—The housing market and stocks may be looking up, but Americans just can't shake their job worries.

In a sign that talk of an economic recovery has yet to soothe a recession-battered nation, consumer confidence fell in October and came in well below what analysts were expecting.

For stores, the reading is reason to worry that holiday sales might be even worse than they feared.

In a separate reading, the Conference Board reported shoppers' sentiments about the state of the economy are the gloomiest in nearly three decades. Americans reported they plan to cut back on spending, in large part because they don't trust the job market.

The unemployment rate is just under 10 percent, and economists say it could hit 10.5 percent next year.

"It's hard to get a job, and the ones that are out there don't pay enough," said Mitch Hicks, a 33-year-old from Hillsboro, Ore., who lost his job at a cabinet company a year ago and is still struggling to find work.

Obama endorses US House financial overhaul bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama on Tuesday endorsed a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives that would give the government unprecedented power to seize bank holding companies teetering on the brink of collapse and stick their competitors with the cost.

In a letter to House Financial Services Committee Chairman Barney Frank, Obama said the belief among financial executives that the government would ultimately protect them creates a "perverse incentive" for large firms to take reckless risks.

"Taxpayers simply must not be put in the position of paying for losses incurred by private institutions," Obama wrote in the letter, obtained by The Associated Press.

Under Frank's proposal, a council of regulators would be established to monitor financial firms regarded as so big and influential that their collapse could bring down the U.S. economy.

If the council should determine that a firm has grown too big and dangerous, the Federal Reserve could step in to dismantle it. Firms with more than $10 billion of assets would be responsible for covering any outstanding costs.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Treasury, GMAC in talks for 3rd round of US aid

NEW YORK (AP)—GMAC Financial Services is in talks with the Treasury Department for a third injection of taxpayer aid as the auto lender faces a November deadline to raise the $11.5 billion capital cushion mandated by results of the government's "stress test" earlier this year. A Treasury Department spokesman confirmed Tuesday that GMAC is in discussions about securing additional government help. Of the 19 banks that underwent the government's stress tests, 10 were determined to be undercapitalized. GMAC is the only one of those to not have been able to raise all of its necessary capital from investors.

Citing unnamed people familiar with the matter, The Wall Street Journal reported on its Web site late Tuesday that the U.S. government could hand over another $2.8 billion to $5.6 billion to Detroit-based GMAC. The move would make GMAC the only U.S. company to receive three rounds of bailout aid.

Report: AMD ex-CEO said linked to Galleon case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Chip maker Advanced Micro Devices Inc. is "thoroughly reviewing" published reports fingering former chairman and CEO Hector Ruiz as the AMD executive who gave confidential company information to a defendant in the Galleon Group insider trading case. "We are not aware of any allegation of criminal misconduct on the part of any current or former AMD employees, nor have any current or former AMD employees been charged with a crime," AMD said in a statement Tuesday. A spokesman for the Sunnyvale, Calif.-based company declined to comment further. Citing an unnamed person familiar with the matter, The Wall Street Journal reported on its Web site Tuesday that Ruiz is the AMD executive described in the Manhattan U.S. Attorney's Office complaint as passing inside information to defendant Danielle Chiesi.

Oil falls amid mixed signs on US economic recovery

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices fell to near $79 a barrel Wednesday in Asia amid mixed signals about the strength of the U.S. economic recovery. Benchmark crude for December delivery was down 30 cents to $79.25 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 87 cents to settle at $79.55 on Tuesday. Oil has retreated from a one-year high of $82 a barrel hit last week as investors look for signs of a sustainable U.S. economy to justify further crude price gains.

Nation

Dem moderates challenge Reid on health care plan

WASHINGTON (AP)—Democratic moderates who control the balance of power on health care legislation balked Tuesday at a government-run insurance option for millions of Americans, underscoring the enormity of the challenge confronting Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid one day after he unveiled the plan as a consensus product.

Reid

Republican opposition stiffened, and party leaders announced they would attempt to strangle the bill before formal debate begins.

Despite the obvious obstacles, senior Democrats cast Reid's draft legislation as a turning point in the yearlong campaign to enact President Barack Obama's top domestic priority. Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said there is now a "sense of inevitability, the sense that, yes, we're going to pass health care reform, and it's going to lower costs, provide better health insurance coverage and cover ... and reform the health insurance market."

The proposed government insurance option long ago emerged as the biggest flashpoint in both the House and Senate as Democrats struggle to pass legislation that extends coverage to millions who lack it, bans insurance industry practices such as denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing medical conditions and slows the growth of health care spending nationally.

FAA revokes licenses of wayward Northwest pilots

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Federal Aviation Administration on Tuesday revoked the licenses of the two Northwest Airlines pilots who overshot their Minneapolis destination by 150 miles.

The pilots—Timothy Cheney of Gig Harbor, Wash., the captain, and Richard Cole of Salem, Ore., the first officer—told safety investigators they were working on their personal laptop computers and lost track of time and place.

The pilots, who were out of communications with air traffic controllers for 91 minutes, violated numerous federal safety regulations in the incident last Wednesday night, the FAA said in a statement. The violations included failing to comply with air traffic control instructions and clearances and operating carelessly and recklessly, the agency said.

"You engaged in conduct that put your passengers and your crew in serious jeopardy," FAA regional counsel Eddie Thomas said in a letter to Cheney. Northwest Flight 188 was not in communications with controllers or the airline dispatchers "while you were on a frolic of your own. ... This is a total dereliction and disregard for your duties."

US swine flu vaccine outlook improving, CDC says

ATLANTA (AP)—More than 22 million doses of swine flu vaccine are available now, and most Americans should soon find it easier to get their dose, U.S. health officials said Tuesday.

"We're beginning to get to significant increases in the availability," said Dr. Thomas Frieden, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, at a briefing.

Last week there were just 14 million doses on hand, despite initial predictions that as many as 120 million would be ready by mid-October. The government later slashed that estimate to 45 million. The slow supply trickle has frustrated Americans, who have stood in line for hours in some parts of the country.

The shortage has probably increased demand, Frieden said.

"It's quite likely that too little vaccine is one of the things that's making people more interested in getting vaccinated, frankly. When we have shortages, we see an increase in demand," he said.

The vaccine is grown in eggs in a reliable but slow process, and smaller amounts of it were being produced per egg than expected. There were other snags, too, but health officials say manufacturers have overcome most of those and are making the vaccine more speedily.

ACROSS THE NATION

Boston cops: Psych patient stabs doc, is shot dead

BOSTON (AP)—A man stabbed a doctor while being treated at a psychiatric office at a Boston medical building Tuesday and was fatally shot by an off-duty security guard who saw the attack, police said. The attack took place in the afternoon at a high-rise affiliated with Massachusetts General Hospital. The female doctor, identified by hospital officials as Dr. Astrid Desrosiers, was in serious, but stable condition. Police said the suspect died of the gunshot wounds. He was identified as Jay Carciero, 37, of Reading. "During the course of the stabbing incident an off-duty security officer who was armed interceded. He produced a weapon and ordered the suspect to drop the knife. And when the suspect did not comply, he shot the suspect," said Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis.

San Francisco bridge closes after cable snaps

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Authorities on Tuesday closed a major bridge connecting San Francisco and Oakland after a cable on its upper deck snapped during the evening commute. No injuries were reported. But one person was shaken up, and at least one vehicle was damaged in the incident, said California Highway Patrol Officer Peter Van Eckhardt. The bridge, a California landmark that carries about 260,000 vehicles a day, was expected to be closed for at least 24 hours as crews worked to repair the broken cable.

Feds: Chicago men planned to attack Danish paper

CHICAGO (AP)—Two Chicago men who were schoolmates in Pakistan plotted terrorist attacks against a Danish newspaper that triggered widespread protests by printing cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad, federal prosecutors said Tuesday in announcing charges against the men. David Coleman Headley, 49, traveled to Denmark in January and July to conduct surveillance on possible targets, including the Copenhagen and Aarhus offices of the Jyllands-Posten newspaper, prosecutors said in criminal complaints filed in U.S. District Court in Chicago. Tahawwur Hussain Rana, 48, helped arrange Headley's travel, prosecutors said. Danish authorities said there could be more arrests.

World

Afghan police: 10 dead in attack on UN in Kabul

KABUL (AP)—Gunmen with automatic weapons and suicide vests stormed a guest house used by U.N. staff in the heart of the Afghan capital early Wednesday, killing 10 people—including six U.N. staff—officials said. A Taliban spokesman claimed responsibility, saying it was meant as an assault on the upcoming presidential election.

Later, a rocket slammed into the grounds of the luxury Serena Hotel, which is favored by many foreigners. The device failed to explode but filled the lobby with smoke, forcing guests and employees to flee to the basement, according to an Afghan witness who asked that his name not be used for security reasons.

U.N. spokesman Adrian Edwards said six U.N. staff were killed and nine other U.N. employees were injured in the assault, which began about dawn in the Shar-e-Naw area of the city.

AP

Afghan police officers rescue a wounded German U.N. staffer, from a U.N. guest house during a gunbattle in Kabul, Afghanistan, Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009.

Guests scurried from the building during the assault, and flames were seen on the roof as smoke billowed out and over the city.

Afghan police official Abdul Ghafar Sayedzada said 10 people in all were killed, including three attackers, and that police had taken control of the building. The bodies of three attackers were taken out of the house and sent for autopsy, said Gul Mohammad, an officer at the scene.

Edwards said officials were trying to account for several other U.N. workers who were staying at the guest house. He did not know their nationalities but said they were non-Afghans.

"This has clearly been a very serious incident for us," Edwards said. "We've not had an incident like this in the past."

A security guard, Noor Allah, said he saw a woman screaming for help in English from a second story window and watched as terrified guests leapt from windows. Afghan police using ladders rescued at least one wounded foreigner.

Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the attack on the guest house and the Serena in a telephone call to The Associated Press, saying three militants with suicide vests, grenades and machine guns carried out the assault.

He said three days ago the Taliban issued a statement threatening anyone working on the Nov. 7 runoff election between President Hamid Karzai and Abdullah Abdullah.

"This is our first attack," he said.

Afghans vote Nov. 7 in a second round election after U.N.-backed auditors threw out nearly a third of Karzai's votes from the Aug. 20 ballot, determining widespread fraud. That pushed Karzai's totals below the 50 percent threshold needed for a first round victory in the 36-candidate field.

The Taliban warned Afghans to stay away from the polls or risk attacks. Dozens of people were killed in Taliban attacks during the August balloting, helping drive down turnout.

Fate of oil-rich Kirkuk stalls Iraq election law

BAGHDAD (AP)—A long-sought political consensus in Iraq over how to conduct crucial upcoming elections fell apart Tuesday over the thorny issue of the oil-rich city of Kirkuk, an Iraqi lawmaker said.

The new snag came as an al-Qaida-linked group claimed responsibility for the twin suicide bombings in the heart of Baghdad Sunday that killed at least 155 people.

Many fear the political deadlock over the new law will delay elections, now slated for January, and open the door to renewed violence in Iraq after it stepped back from the brink of civil war two years ago.

Mahmoud Othman, a Kurdish lawmaker, told The Associated Press that an emergency proposal by the nation's leaders to break the deadlock over the election law had fallen apart over the fractious northern city split between Arabs and Kurds.

Othman said the vote over the election law would not take place Tuesday. There was no information about when the matter would be addressed.

Just one day after the massive security failure in the capital, there appeared to be quick progress on the election law. With Iraq's public already angry over the bombing and the resurgence of violence, the politicians appeared to not want to risk further angering people by delaying the elections with their internal wrangling.

On Monday night, Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and others agreed on a compromise over voting in Kirkuk as the Shiite-dominated government pushed to smooth over differences in the divided parliament and wrap up the law so elections could proceed on time.

In Kirkuk, which is claimed by Kurds, Arabs and Turkomens, the dispute focuses on whether all the people living there should be allowed to vote in the election.

RP, Muslim rebels vow to spare civilians

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government and a large Muslim rebel group signed an accord pledging not to target civilians and to protect schools and hospitals, an indication of improving relations after years of conflict, officials said Wednesday.

The agreement, signed in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, aims to avoid massive civilian suffering in the southern Philippines, where hundreds were killed and more than half a million displaced when peace talks collapsed last year.

"The next logical move is to resume the peace negotiations," said Eid Kabalu, spokesman for the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, which has been fighting for Muslim self-rule in the predominantly Roman Catholic nation's south.

Both sides will discuss measures to enforce the accord once formal talks resume later this year, including international monitors, said government negotiator Rafael Seguis.

"It's aimed at preventing massive numbers of internally displaced persons," he said.

Displaced civilians have born the brunt of the conflict, which has claimed at least 120,000 lives since the 1970s.

In the agreement signed Tuesday, both sides committed not to target noncombatants, along with "schools, hospitals, religious premises, health and food distribution centers, or relief operations." They also agreed not to block the flow of food aid and other relief goods.

WORLD BRIEFS

Baghdad attacks stir fears of Sunni violence

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's Sunnis, long dissatisfied with the Shiite-led government, seek more power, respect and a bigger share of oil wealth in upcoming elections. But disunity among their political leaders and the sheer force of Shiite numbers threaten to derail those hopes. The result, some analysts and Iraqis fear, could be increased violence as some embittered Sunnis try to destabilize the government and gain power. Sunday's bombings that killed 155 people in Baghdad sent a chill across the country, with an al-Qaida-linked group claiming responsibility. Three years ago, Iraq descended into intense violence when Sunni extremists launched bombing campaigns that aggravated the underlying Sunni-Shiite tensions, fueling a vicious cycle of sectarian reprisals that brought the country to the edge of chaos.

UN investigator warns US on use of drones

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—A U.N. human rights investigator is warning the United States that its use of unmanned warplanes to carry out targeted executions may violate international law. Philip Alston says the U.S. will increasingly be perceived as carrying out indiscriminate killings in violation of international law unless the government explains the legal basis for targeting particular individuals and the measures it is taking to comply with international humanitarian law which prohibits arbitrary executions. His comments Tuesday came as the U.S. has increased the use of Predator drones in Afghanistan and Pakistan and is considering stepping up their use even further against al-Qaida and Taliban targets.

Genocide trial begins, Karadzic fails to show up

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—Radovan Karadzic's words urging the destruction of Bosnia's non-Serbs rang out in a courtroom Tuesday from speeches and intercepted phone calls as U.N. prosecutors opened their genocide and war crimes case against him. The former Bosnian Serb leader boycotted his trial for the second day, despite warnings from the war crimes tribunal's presiding judge that he could be stripped of his right to defend himself. The trial promises to be the judicial climax of the Balkan wars of the early 1990s that left more than 100,000 people dead, most of them victims of Bosnian Serb attacks.

Tight pants a no-no for women in Indonesia's Aceh

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Muslim women would be banned from wearing tight pants in a devoutly Islamic district of Indonesia's Aceh province under proposed regulations to take effect Jan. 1, an official said Wednesday. It is the latest effort to promote strict moral values in the world's most populous Muslim-majority nation, where most of the roughly 200 million Muslims practice a moderate form of the faith. Any Muslim caught violating the dress code, which also prohibits shorts for men, will be told to put on government-issued full-length skirts or loose pants, said Ramli Mansur, head of West Aceh District.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-DEQ-009

SUBMISSION: NOVEMBER 16, 2009 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"MARINE ECOLOGIST TO MANAGE THE CORAL REEF AND MARINE AND WATER QUALITY MONITORING PLAN FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DRIVE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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/s/ **FRANK M. RABAULIMAN**
DIRECTOR OF DEQ

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-DEQ-010

SUBMISSION: NOVEMBER 16, 2009 • TIME: 3:00 P.M.

"PROJECT MANAGERS TO MANAGE THE LAOLAO BAY RESTORATION PROJECT FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

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DIRECTOR OF DEQ

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-DEQ-011

SUBMISSION: NOVEMBER 13, 2009 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICE, SAIPAN"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON **NOVEMBER 02, 2009 AT 9:30 A.M.** AT THE DEQ MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR GUALO RAI CENTER, GUALO RAI, SAIPAN.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A) - (D).

/s/ **FRANK M. RABAULIMAN**
DIRECTOR OF DEQ

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

Environment

NMI joins call to action in global 350.org demos

One of over 2,000 simultaneous events in over 150 countries

Members of the Saipan Fatuul Canoe Club pose with other paddlers at the Micronesian Cup Competition.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

On Saturday morning, Saipan residents joined people in 181 countries for the most widespread day of environmental action in the planet's history. At more than 5,200 events around the world, people gathered to call for strong action and bold leadership on the climate crisis.

Around the world—from capitol cities to the melting slopes of Mount Everest, even underwater on dying coral reefs—people held rallies aimed at focusing attention on the number 350 because scientists have insisted in recent years that 350 parts per million is the most carbon dioxide we can safely have in the atmosphere. The current CO2 concentration is 390 parts per million.

On Saipan, events included:

■ Community members gathered in front of Mt. Carmel Cathedral church to pose for a 350 photo in recognition of the issue of climate change.

■ The Division of Environmental Quality and Coastal Resources Management Office organized a 350 photo during the Green Business Initiative Eco-bag giveaway at Payless Market—a monthly event to promote reducing the use of plastic bags.

■ The CNMI Marine Monitoring Team organized a 350 photo at one of several coral bleaching sites.

■ Saipan Fatuul Canoe Club organized a 350 photo with paddlers at the Micronesian Cup Competition.

"That's why glaciers and sea ice are melting, drought is spreading, and flooding is on the increase," said Bill McKibben, founder of 350.org and author 20 years ago of the first major book on climate change. "And it's why we need a huge worldwide movement to give us the momentum to make real political change. Our leaders have heard from major corporations and big polluters for a long time—today, finally, they heard from citizens and scientists."

Members of the CNMI Marine Monitoring Team have their picture taken at one of several coral bleaching sites on Saipan.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

These Payless Market customers show off the eco-bags the Division of Environmental Quality and Coastal Resources Management Office gave away as part of a monthly event to promote reducing the use of plastic bags.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Community members gather in front of Mt. Carmel Cathedral church to pose for a 350 photo.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

These global actions come six weeks before the world's nations convene in Copenhagen for the U.N. Climate Change Conference to draw up a new climate treaty. About 89 countries have already endorsed the 350 target, as well as the chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Rajendra Pachauri, the world's foremost climate economist, Sir Nicholas Stern, and Nobel prize-winner Al Gore.

Images of the events from around the world, including the rallies on Saipan, were featured on giant video screens in Times Square in New York City as part of a 350 countdown, and are accessible at 350.org as part of online photostream. Visual documentation From the Day of Action will be delivered to the United Nations on Monday.

"People have said the science of global warming is too confusing for average citizens to understand," said McKibben. "Yesterday's events prove that millions of people understand exactly what is at stake in the next few years, and that they want swift action to safeguard the future."

ABOUT 350.ORG

Founded by author and environmentalist Bill McKibben, 350.org is the first large-scale grassroots global campaign against climate change. Its supporters include leading scientists, the governments of 92 countries, and a huge variety of environmental, health, development and religious NGOs. All agree that current atmospheric levels of CO2—390 parts per million—are causing damage to the planet and to its most vulnerable people, and that government action at the Copenhagen climate conference is required to bring the earth's carbon level swiftly down to 350 ppm.

350.org is member of TckTckTck, a global alliance of faith groups, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and over a million individuals calling for a fair, ambitious, and binding international climate change treaty.

For more information, visit www.350.org. ***(PR)***

Obama team: US needs a bill to lead in clean energy

WASHINGTON (AP)— The Obama administration warned on Tuesday that the United States could slip further behind China and other countries in clean energy development if Congress should fail to pass climate legislation as early signs of a rift emerged among Democrats over the bill's costs.

Energy Secretary Steven Chu told a U.S. Senate panel the United States has stumbled in the clean energy race. To catch up, he said, Congress must enact comprehensive energy legislation that would put the first-ever limits on the gases blamed for global warming.

"The United States ... has fallen behind," said Chu, "but I remain confident that we can make up the ground."

While the legislation probably will clear the environment panel, more than a dozen Democrats have voiced serious misgivings about the potential economic fallout from shifting away from fossil fuels to reduce carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions.

On Tuesday, Democratic Sen. Max Baucus, chairman of the Finance Committee, told the hearing that he had "serious reservations" with the aggressive effort to cut emissions over the next decade. The bill calls for greenhouse gases to be cut by 20 percent by 2020, a target that was scaled back to 17 percent in the House of Representatives after opposition from coal-state Democrats.

"We cannot afford a first step that takes us further away from an achievable consensus on commonsense climate change legislation," Baucus said.

"Montana can't afford the unmitigated impacts of climate change, but we also cannot afford the unmitigated effects of climate change legislation," he said, speaking of his home state.

The chief writer of the Senate bill, Democratic Sen. John Kerry, acknowledged that the bill would raise energy prices but said the savings from reducing energy and the money to be made in new technologies were far greater.

"Are there some costs? Yes, sir, there are some costs," Kerry said. He added that while an array of studies show that restricting greenhouse gases will lead to higher energy prices, "none of them factor in the cost of doing nothing."

Kerry got some much-needed backup from President Barack Obama, who made a stop Tuesday at a solar energy site in Florida.

The president warned that opponents, whom he did not identify, would work against the climate bill.

"They're going to argue that we should do nothing, stand pat, do less or delay action yet again," said Obama. "It's a debate between looking backward and looking forward, between those who are ready to seize the future and those who are afraid of the future."

An Environmental Protection Agency analysis released late Friday said the average household would pay an additional $80 to $111 a year to power their homes and fuel their cars if the bill should become law and businesses pass on the cost of reducing pollution to consumers.

Bats reintroduced into Vermont caves hit by fungus

By MICHAEL HILL
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ALBANY, New York (AP)— Wildlife biologists studying a mysterious fungus killing off hundreds of thousands of bats around America want to find out if they can repopulate caves decimated by the disease.

Researchers will introduce 79 healthy little brown bats to two hibernation sites in Vermont hit hard by the fungus, which may have killed as many as 500,000 bats in the eastern United States over several winters.

Scientists suspect a fungus that thrives in cold, moist caves causes white-nose syndrome, named for the sugary smudges of fungus on the noses and wings of hibernating bats.

The repopulation experiment starting Tuesday at caves in Bridgewater and Stockbridge, Vermont, is not aimed at curing the disease. But it could show whether affected caves can sustain new populations of hibernating bats.

"Can you have bats successfully survive there? Or will they develop the disease even if there aren't any infected bats there?" asked Al Hicks, a wildlife biologist for New York's Department of Environmental Conservation.

Hicks said that if the bats shipped in from Wisconsin survive the winter, that could provide evidence that bats can be successfully reintroduced to caves that housed infected animals. It also could show whether the disease persists at hibernation sites even after infected bats are gone.

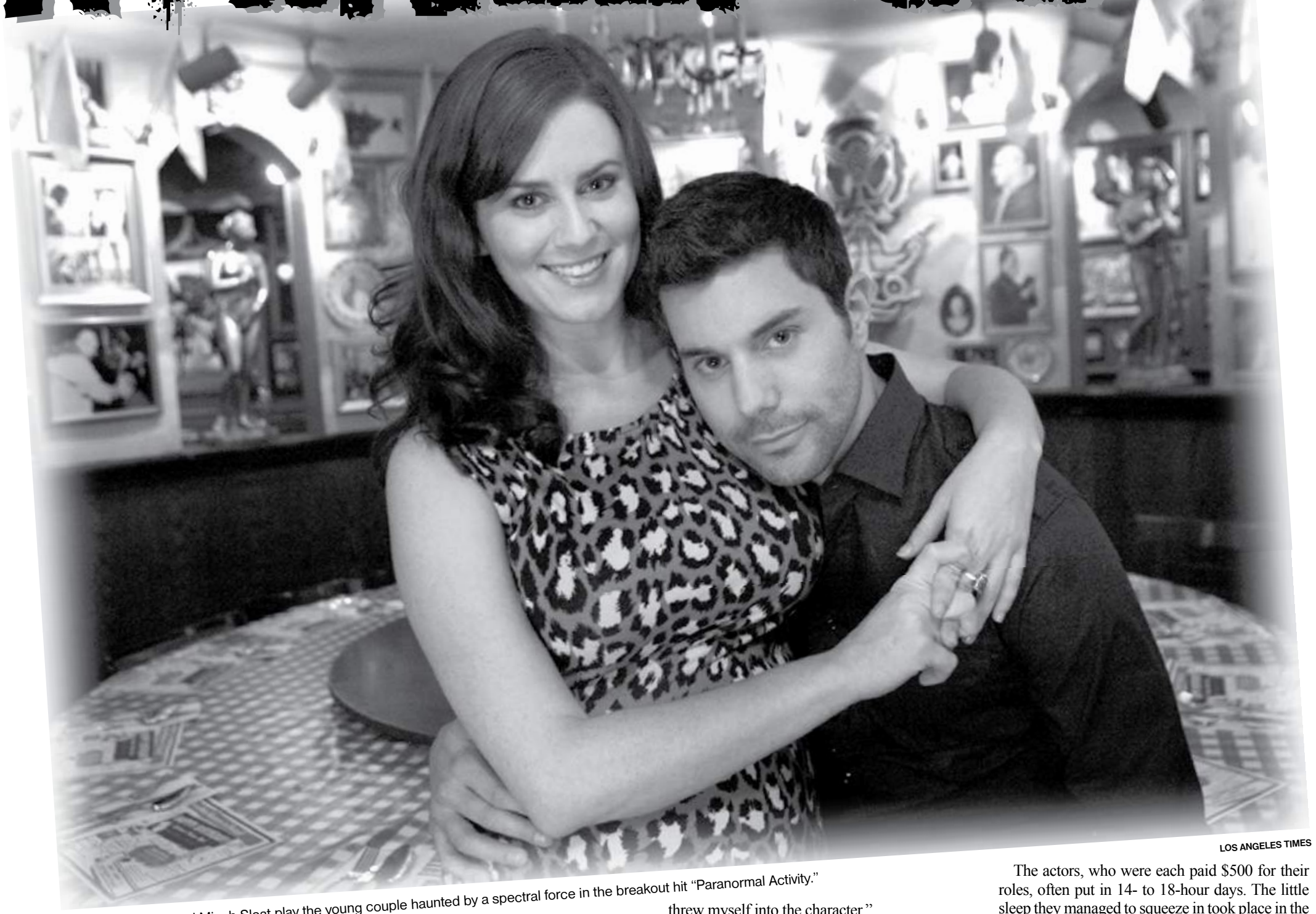
Entrances at the two sites are screened to keep in the bats. Gates will keep out people.

First noted in upstate New York in 2006, the disease has spread around the U.S. Northeast and has been detected as far south as Virginia. Researchers worry about a mass die-off of bats, which help control the populations of insects that can damage wheat, apples and dozens of other crops.

The repopulation project is a cooperative effort among conservation officials from Vermont, New York and the federal government.

Life & Style

A THRILLING END



Katie Featherston and Micah Sloat play the young couple haunted by a spectral force in the breakout hit "Paranormal Activity."

LOS ANGELES TIMES

By YVONNE VILLARREAL
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

HOLLYWOOD—Just a few weeks ago, Katie Featherston was balancing plates brimming with spaghetti and baked ravioli, working as a waitress at a local Buca di Beppo restaurant. Micah Sloat was a struggling actor/computer programmer living in North Hollywood. Now, they're watching the micro-budget horror movie they filmed three years ago develop into a full-blown phenomenon.

The two play the young couple haunted by a spectral force in the breakout hit "Paranormal Activity." The suspenseful supernatural thriller, reminiscent of "The Blair Witch Project," has become one of the year's biggest success stories. Made for $15,000, "Paranormal" was the No. 1 movie at the box office this weekend, taking in about $22 million, and has earned an astounding $62.5 million since its initial limited release in late September.

Featherston and Sloat? They're just as surprised as everyone else.

"When the movie opened, we hid behind a tree across the street from the ArcLight (theater) in Hollywood," Featherston, 27, said as she sat in a booth at Buca di Beppo, where she was frequently interrupted by former co-workers. "The line was huge. I couldn't believe it. It's something you hope for but never, ever expect will happen. I wanted to run over and say, 'Hey, I'm in that!' ... but we couldn't."

In an attempt to keep the mystery surrounding the movie's story intact, the studio and the film's director, Oren Peli, an Israeli-born video game designer with no formal film training, kept the two actors relatively secluded—they've only recently started to do interviews with media.

The tactic seems to have worked. After the movie's nationwide release, the startling ending to the film provoked a spike in Internet searches by people apparently determined to learn if the facts as presented were true.

It's all been a big leap for Sloat. The 28-year-old, who grew up in Westport, Conn., and moved to Los Angeles in 2005 to pursue acting, was on the verge of ditching the unstable career and giving up on his dream.

Featherston, a Texas native, graduated from Southern Methodist University and also moved to Los Angeles in 2005.

When the two auditioned for the spookfest in 2006, they weren't expecting to be part of a box-office record breaker. There wasn't even a script.

"I remember being in the waiting room and these girls would just kind of walk out shaking their head," Featherston said. "I walked into the room and (Peli) said, 'Why do you think your house is haunted?' Just like that. Boom! So I just threw myself into the character."

And that's exactly what Peli was searching for in casting the characters who would later be called Katie and Micah (yes, he used their actual names).

"The whole point is for it to feel natural," Peli said in a recent phone interview. "I didn't want actors who looked like they were acting. I wanted it to feel real, so I didn't want there to be a script. I wanted the audience to think they were watching real life. If you're looking at the footage of their audition and see the way they interact—if you didn't know any better—you'd think you were looking at real documentary footage of a couple."

It's true. In person, they often finish each other's sentences. They playfully tease one another. Compliments are exchanged. But despite the good-natured flirtations, they insist they're not a couple, although Sloat is quick to point out that Featherston asked him for his number back when they auditioned together.

"I was not trying to hit on him," Featherston interjects. "I was new in town and we had so much fun together. Why wouldn't I want us to be friends and hang out? And I thought if we got the part, it would be nice if we got along because it was going to be intense."

Filming took place in 2006 at Peli's San Diego home over a span of seven days—a problem for Sloat, who was enrolled in music school at the time (he even wrote original music that's included in the film).

The actors, who were each paid $500 for their roles, often put in 14- to 18-hour days. The little sleep they managed to squeeze in took place in the "haunted" house.

Featherston slept in the infamous bed seen in all the promotional screen shots of the film, while Sloat dozed off in one of the guest rooms.

"We hardly saw the outside world," Featherston joked. "We just filmed all the time. I couldn't even tell you what San Diego is like. But the exhaustion helped make our characters more believable—I think."

Believable acting aside, Sloat said, it's the universal primal fear that makes this thriller so spine-tingling.

"Being scared at night is something we can all relate to," Sloat said. "As children, we all had those fears. Everyone knows what it's like to be scared of what's lurking behind the closet. I think as we age, those kind of unconscious fears recede into the background, but they're still there. And when they reappear in your home—in your room—it's not something that you can just ignore. I think that's why it's done so well."

Sloat and Featherston—who look much like they did three years ago (although on this day Featherston is a bit more glam with the help of an on-site makeup artist)—don't seem fazed by the frenzy. They don't mind it either.

Featherston quit waitressing. Sloat hinted he's leaving the tech industry. "Auditions are coming at us like bullets," Sloat said. "It's better than winning all the lotteries at once."

New movie takes aim at celebrity journalism

BEST SELLERS

(c) 2009 Los Angeles Times

Nonfiction

1. ***Where Men Win Glory***, by Jon Krakauer (Doubleday: $27.95). A chronicle of Pat Tillman, the NFL star turned Army Ranger whose death in Afghanistan stunned the power structure.
2. ***Have a Little Faith***, by Mitch Albom (Hyperion: $23.99). Albom's observations of a rabbi and a pastor, on an eight-year journey of faith.
3. ***True Compass***, by Edward Kennedy (Twelve: $35). The memoirs of the late U.S. senator from Massachusetts.
4. ***Outliers***, by Malcolm Gladwell (Little, Brown: $27.99). An exploration of the background of high achievers.
5. ***Arguing With Idiots***, by Glenn Beck (Threshold Editions: $29.99). Secrets for winning arguments with small-minded people.
6. ***Zeitoun***, by Dave Eggers (McSweeney's: $24). The disappearance of a Syrian American father and good Samaritan in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.
7. ***Manhood for Amateurs***, by Michael Chabon (Harper: $26.99). A collection of essays reflecting on what it means to be a man and father.
8. ***The Greatest Show on Earth***, by Richard Dawkins (Free Press: $30). A pro-evolution argument filled with scientific evidence.
9. ***American on Purpose***, by Craig Ferguson (Harper: $25.99). A memoir of the Scottish-born comic living the American Dream.
10. ***L.A. Noir***, by John Buntin (Harmony: $26). Gangster Mickey Cohen and LAPD Chief William Parker battle for control in midcentury Los Angeles.

Fiction

1. ***The Lost Symbol***, by Dan Brown (Doubleday: $25.99). Harvard professor Robert Langdon uses his symbology skills to find a missing Freemason in Washington, D.C.
2. ***The Help***, by Kathryn Stockett (Putnam: $24.95). The lives of a maid, a cook and a college graduate become intertwined while changing a Mississippi town.
3. ***Juliet, Naked***, by Nick Hornby (Riverhead: $25.95). A woman acquaints herself with the songwriter whose album caused the breakup of her recent relationship.
4. ***Nine Dragons***, by Michael Connelly (Little, Brown: $27.99). A Los Angeles police detective travels to Hong Kong to solve the murder of a Chinese immigrant.
5. ***Blood's a Rover***, by James Ellroy (Knopf : $28.95). A bank heist sets off an escapade through 1960s Los Angeles involving run-ins with the mob, the FBI and Howard Hughes.
6. ***South of Broad***, by Pat Conroy (Nan A. Talese: $29.95). A gossip columnist's homage to a close-knit group of friends from Charleston, S.C.
7. ***A Gate at the Stairs***, by Lorrie Moore (Knopf : $25.95). A naive Midwestern college student takes a job as a nanny for a recently adopted toddler.
8. ***The Professional***, by Robert B. Parker (Putnam: $26.95). A Boston private investigator is hired to scrutinize a blackmailing Lothario whose victims are turning up dead.
9. ***The Children's Book***, by A.S. Byatt (Knopf: $26.95). A runaway boy is taken in by a famous children's book author and her storybook world.
10. ***Half Broke Horses***, by Jeannette Walls (Scribner: $26). The story of a hard-knock gal who raised horses and survived floods and the Great Depression.

LONDON (AP)—What do Amy Winehouse's flaming beehive and Guy Ritchie's self-inflicted black eye have in common?

Both stories appeared in the pages of Britain's tabloid press. Neither is true.

The two incidents were fake showbiz news tips phoned into newspapers by the makers of the new documentary "Starsuckers," to see whether they would be used without fact-checking. The fact that they were forms part of the movie's argument that the culture of celebrity has undermined journalistic standards and warped society's values.

"I didn't realize quite how much of our news is public relations, or lies, or on the basis of criminal acts," said the film's 33-year-old director, Chris Atkins.

"Starsuckers," which premieres Wednesday at the London Film Festival, takes aim at Britain's fiercely competitive tabloid press, but its real target is much broader. Atkins believes that society's obsession with fame—gaining it and being near it—has distorted everything from the way news is reported to our children's aspirations.

AP

In this Friday, Oct. 23, 2009, Chris Atkins, director of the documentary 'Star Suckers' is seen during an interview in his office in London.

The film opens with the statement that "everybody is naturally and powerfully attracted to fame," and tries to show how big companies in entertainment, media and PR use that desire to create a world full of insatiable consumers.

Through a series of stunts reminiscent of Michael Moore's movie polemics, Atkins aims to show how dignity, truth and even the law go out the window in the pursuit of celebrity.

Atkins is particularly scornful of reality television—the way such shows distort reality and stretch the limits of what people will do to be on TV.

The film introduces viewers to a Nevada boy named Ryan, who wants urgently to be famous—at five years old, he is already a veteran of agents, auditions and public appearances.

In another sequence, Atkins set up a booth in an English shopping mall purporting to be casting for children's reality TV shows. The filmmakers recorded as parents happily signed waivers for their children to appear on shows with titles like "Baby Boozers" and "Take Your Daughter to the Slaughterhouse"—for which he filmed children cheerfully trying to decapitate rubber chickens.

Critics might say Atkins manipulates people in the same way as the shows he criticizes.

"We tricked people into being in our film," acknowledged Atkins, whose last film, "Taking Liberties," looked at what he saw as the erosion of civil rights under Prime Minister Tony Blair.

"Yes, we had moral qualms, but I firmly believe we're doing it for the wider point. There was subterfuge involved to serve a wider public interest."

Atkins uses the same defense for his attempts to dupe newspapers in a bid to prove that Britain's tabloids won't let the facts get in the way of a good story.

Checkbook journalism and stories sourced to anonymous "friends" are long-standing practices in Britain's popular press. Even murkier tabloid methods have come under scrutiny since 2007, when a News of the World journalist was jailed for illegally hacking into the phones of royal officials. The newspaper insisted it was a one-off blunder, strongly denying claims that phone-tapping of celebrities was widespread.

"Starsuckers" suggests that some tabloids, at least, won't let the truth get in the way of a good story. Newspapers as far afield as India printed the too-good-to-fact-check claims that a blown fuse had singed Winehouse's signature hairdo and Ritchie had given himself a black eye while juggling cutlery.

Even more worryingly, perhaps, Atkins also secretly filmed tabloid reporters as he offered to sell them medical records of celebrities' cosmetic surgery.

Buying such records is illegal in Britain, but the reporters seemed keen. They didn't know that the documents offered by Atkins—purporting to prove Hugh Grant's facelift and Guy Ritchie's chemical peel—were fake.

"We're trying to turn the tables—to put the boot on the other foot," said Atkins of his stings, which also included covertly filming celebrity publicist Max Clifford as he talked about the famous clients who pay him handsomely to keep damaging stories about them out of the headlines.

Atkins said his tactics had prompted letters from lawyers, including those working for Clifford, threatening legal action against the film.

Some viewers of "Starsuckers" may feel that Atkins doesn't give people enough credit. Surely most people know that what they see on reality shows or read in the showbiz pages of tabloids might not be 100 percent true?

Clifford, whose clients include Simon Cowell, said a lot of celebrity stories are "25 percent reality and 75 percent exaggeration"—but that we shouldn't worry too much about it.

"It's entertainment," he said. "The public believe what they want to believe."

The subjects of celebrity stories are less easygoing about it. George Clooney, asked about "Starsuckers" by The Associated Press, said a combination of shrinking newspaper staffs and the Internet meant misinformation could spread instantly around the world.

"Somebody will write a story and it will be in 1,800 different outlets from one person's story," Clooney said.

"It'll be false, and you'll go, 'It's not true.' And they go, 'We're not saying that, we're saying that a London tabloid has said it.' They're just reprinting and reprinting things that aren't necessarily true."

Atkins says the problem is that the blurring of fact and fiction is not confined to celebrity stories. British newspaper editors are frequently former showbiz reporters.

It's hard not to see symbolism in the career of Piers Morgan, who went from entertainment reporter to editor of The News of the World and the Daily Mirror. After he was fired by the Mirror—for running fake photos of British soldiers allegedly abusing Iraqis—he became a celebrity himself, as a judge on "Britain's Got Talent," which launched Susan Boyle to stardom.

"It's the same journalists who write about Amy's hair who write about weapons of mass destruction," Atkins said.

BOOK REVIEW

Hulk Hogan's personality shines in his memoir

By DINESH RAMDE
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

He may have had his own reality show and starred as Thunderlips in "Rocky III," but Hulk Hogan will always be remembered as the wrestling legend who told children to take their vitamins and say their prayers, brother. So even though the Hulkster—whose real name is Terry Bollea—titled his book "My Life Outside the Ring," the fans who want to know anything about him are probably more curious about his life inside the squared circle.

Hogan does provide a few of those fascinating gems. He describes how he shredded his back muscles when he bodyslammed Andre the Giant in Wrestlemania, and how the Undertaker administered a Tombstone pile-driver that made Hogan's upper body go numb.

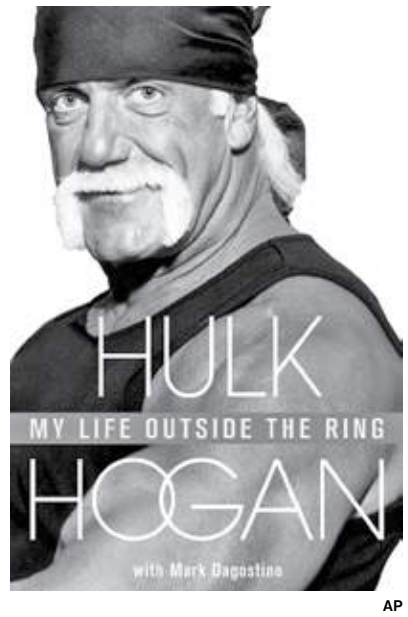
Those intriguing vignettes are infrequent, but that's OK. As it turns out, the stories of his personal life, especially his childhood, are equally intriguing.

Hogan was raised in a poor Florida home and dabbled in music before discovering his passion for professional wrestling. He hoped to impress local wrestlers enough to get his own shot in the ring, but the more he pestered them the more they drove him away.

But Hogan persevered. To chase his dreams he followed a circuitous route through the South and as far north as Minnesota.

Later chapters focus on his challenges—an estranged wife with an apparent drinking problem, a teenage son who served jail time for a car crash that left his best friend with severe head injuries, a lifetime of post-wrestling back and knee problems.

Hogan doesn't shy away from sharing personal details of his family's tragedies. But he does it in a way that sometimes feels like he's orchestrating a bit of a public-relations campaign.



AP

In this book cover image released by St. Martin's Press, "Hulk Hogan: My Life Outside the Ring," by Hulk Hogan and Mark Dagostino is shown.

For example, Hogan, who faces a civil lawsuit from the parents of the injured boy, repeatedly emphasizes that he considers the boy a second son and prays for him every day. He also portrays himself as a naive but well-intentioned husband who can't understand why his wife is so angry and hell-bent on destroying their family.

Besides that, the book is a quick read that is, for the most part, highly entertaining. Hogan comes across as a likable person, the same larger-than-life character he portrayed in the ring.

Even through the written word, Hogan makes it easy to remember why Hulkamania ran wild for so many years.

"My Life Outside the Ring" (St. Martin's Press, 320 pages, $25.99), by Hulk Hogan.

'Michael Jackson's This Is It' opening worldwide

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Jackson fans around the world readied for the singer's last bow Tuesday in a film that captures rehearsals for his aborted concert stand last summer.

From early evening in Los Angeles to late night in New York City, from the pre-dawn hours in Europe to business hours in Asia and elsewhere, "Michael Jackson: This Is It" arrives simultaneously in the biggest cinematic blowout ever for a music film.

Opening in 99 countries Tuesday and Wednesday, the film expands to 110 territories by this weekend, with distributor Sony putting 15,000 prints of "This Is It" into circulation.

The simultaneous showings around the globe will be anchored by a star-studded premiere at the Nokia Theatre, a concert venue across the street from Staples Center, where many of Jackson's rehearsals—and his high-profile public memorial—were held.

Longtime Jackson collaborator Kenny Ortega, who directed and produced "This Is It," is expected to attend, as are members of Jackson's band and the executors of his will. Entertainers including Snoop Dogg, Smokey Robinson and Zac Efron are also on the 5,500-member guest list.

The plaza in front of the Nokia Theatre was transformed into an elegant red-carpet arrivals area, with a dozen crystal chandeliers, displays of Jackson's past costumes and "This Is It" spelled out in giant letters.

A few lucky fans won seats along the red carpet, while others filled the surrounding area, cameras in hand. Jackson's hits played on a loudspeaker.

Johnny Kuhn of San Pedro, Calif., won tickets to the premiere and came downtown early with his wife and two sons to take in the scene. He said he expected "This Is It" would be "happy and sad."

"We've lost a legend," Kuhn said.

Many fans waited in line for days to buy tickets for advance screenings of "This Is It" at the new Regal Cinemas on site, whose which will show the film to sold-out audiences for its grand opening Tuesday on all 14 of its screens.

"For that to be our first movie ... the energy and excitement in the auditorium tonight is going to be phenomenal," said Russ Nunley, spokesman for Regal Entertainment Group.

The film, culled from more than 100 hours of rehearsal footage, shows an enthusiastic King of Pop meticulously crafting his moves and performing some of his most beloved hits. No critics have seen it, but Sony—which paid $60 million for the film rights—showed a 12-minute clip to entertainment journalists last week.

AP
In this film publicity image released by Sony Pictures, the movie poster for Michael Jackson's "This is It," film, is shown.

Some of Jackson's family members and friends have seen "This Is It" in its entirety. Elizabeth Taylor, a longtime friend of the pop star, posted her thoughts Monday on Twitter.

"It is the single most brilliant piece of filmmaking I have ever seen," she wrote on the microblogging site. "It cements forever Michael's genius in every aspect of creativity."

The 77-year-old actress added that she "wept from pure joy at his God-given gift" and urged her fans to see the film "again and again."

The film has potential all-ages appeal, with the Motion Picture Association of America giving it a family-friendly PG rating for "some suggestive choreography and scary images."

Clocking in at one hour, 51 minutes, "This Is It" plays in a limited run of just over two weeks, lending it some of the exclusivity that had been intended for the concerts Jackson had planned in London.

"We think the 16 days is right. It's sort of a special event that you want to frame in a special way," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony.

Jackson died June 25 at age 50. The Los Angeles County coroner has ruled the death a homicide, caused primarily by the powerful anesthetic propofol and another sedative. Jackson's personal physician, Dr. Conrad Murray, has not been charged with a crime but is the focus of the police investigation.

Jackson's 50 comeback concerts at London's O2 arena were to have begun in July.

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NOW SHOWING
Michael Jackson's This Is It
Thursday 4:30 7:15
Michael Jackson
Musical, Documentary • Rated PG
Synopsis
A rare glimpse into the final days of Michael Jackson, the documentary is compiled from an estimated 80 hours of rehearsal and behind-the-scenes footage of the legendary entertainer preparing for his 50 sold-out shows at London's O2 Arena that were scheduled to commence in July 2009 before his untimely death in June at age 50. Interviews with collaborators and close friends of the late performer are also featured.
Astro Boy
Thursday 4:15 7:30
Freddie Highmore, Nicolas Cage
Action, Comedy • Rated PG
Synopsis
Set in futuristic Metro City, the tale of a young robot with incredible powers created by a brilliant scientist named Tenma. Powered bypositive "blue" energy, is endowed with superstrength, x-ray vision, unbelievable speed and the ability to fly. Embarking on a journey in search of acceptance, Astro Boy encounters many other colorful characters along the way. Through his adventures, he learns the joysand emotions of being human, and gains the strength to embrace his destiny.
Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs
Thursday 4:10 7:05
Anna Faris, James Caan
Animated, Children, Adaptation • Rated PG
Vampire's Assistant
Thursday 4:00 7:25
John C. Reilly, Chris Mssoglia
Adventure, Fantasy, Children • Rated PG 13
Law Abiding Citizen
Thursday 4:25 7:00
Jamie Foxx, Gerald Butler
Thriller • Rated R
Saw VI
Thursday 4:05 7:10
Costas Mandylor, Betsy Russell
Horror • Rated R
The Stepfather
Thursday 4:20
Dyland Walsh, Sela Ward
Thriller, Horror • Rated PG 13
Where The Wild Things Are
Thursday 7:20
Katherine Keener, Mark Ruffalo
Fantasy, Children • Rated PG
● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS
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Witness: Doctor fed Anna Nicole Smith's addiction

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Anna Nicole Smith's doctor was feeding her addiction to prescription medications by excessively prescribing opiates, including a drug nicknamed "hospital heroin," a pain management expert testified Tuesday.

Dr. James Gagne said Dr. Sandeep Kapoor had no legitimate medical reason for giving the Playboy model multiple prescriptions for Dilaudid, methadone and sedatives known as benzodiazopines.

Gagne testified at a preliminary hearing to determine whether Kapoor and two other defendants should stand trial on charges that they illegally funneled drugs to Smith. All have pleaded not guilty. Smith died of an accidental overdose of at least nine medications at a Florida hotel in February 2007.

Gagne said Kapoor began treating Smith when he took over the practice of another doctor in April, 2004. Kapoor took up the same regimen as his predecessor, who was treating Smith for pain but felt she "had a predominantly psychiatric illness and was trying to keep a lid on it with methadone," Gagne said.

When Smith fell and fractured two ribs, "Dr. Kapoor prescribed large amounts of Dilaudid, the strongest opiate available," said Gagne, noting the drug is prized by addicts as "hospital heroin."

"Dilaudid is a highly abused drug," he said. "It can cause people to stop breathing."

Smith had requested Dilaudid before and failed to get it, Gagne said.

On cross-examination by Kapoor's lawyer, Ellyn Garofalo, Gagne conceded that rib fractures can be painful. But when asked about reports that Smith was bedridden and Kapoor had to pay a house visit to treat her for the injury, Gagne was unmoved.

"My reaction is to say there's something else going on," he said. "A rib fracture is not that serious an injury. If somebody is bedbound because of the pain there's something else going on."

Garofalo suggested Kapoor was treating her properly for the extreme pain she reported.

"Is it your position that Anna Nicole Smith should not have been treated with opiates?" asked the attorney.

"No," said the witness.

"You just believe the dose was too high?" asked Garofalo.

"Yes," said Gagne.

By the end of September, Kapoor wrote that he was "tapering off" Smith's Dilaudid, but the dosages he prescribed actually increased, Gagne testified. Kapoor stopped the drug by the end of the year, possibly as the result of an appearance by Smith on the American Music Awards, where she appeared to be intoxicated, Gagne said.

Smith's boyfriend, Larry Birkhead, previously testified that Smith had seizures the night before the show and was on anti-seizure medication.

Under questioning by Deputy District Attorney Sean Carney, Gagne said Smith's behavior on the show should have alerted Kapoor that she was an addict who was abusing drugs.

"It was an enormous red flag with sound effects," he said. "Here we have someone appearing in a public place grossly intoxicated. Prescribing opiates to such a person is feeding the addiction, not treating the underlying pain."

Kapoor eventually had a 45-minute meeting with Smith and her boyfriend-lawyer Howard K. Stern, another defendant, and tried to refer her to an addiction specialist, but she refused, Gagne said.

In 2005, Gagne said, Kapoor prescribed numerous sedatives for Smith in substantial amounts. She was under his care when she checked into a hospital to withdraw from the sedatives during her pregnancy in 2006.

However, the day she was released, Kapoor began writing her prescriptions again for sedatives, Gagne said.

"They're excessive. They're without medical basis, and they fly in the face of treatments" received at the hospital, he said. "One presumes it was in response to requests from the patient for medication."

Dogs funnier than cats? Home video show says yes

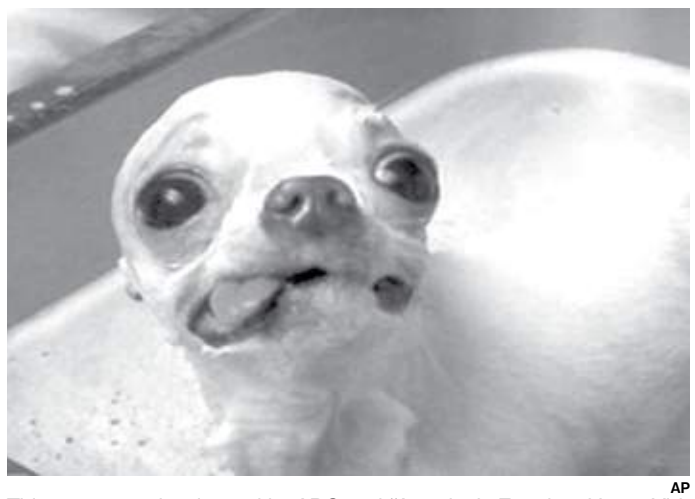
LOS ANGELES (AP)—"America's Funniest Home Videos" has been going to the dogs for years, even if cats make it a game from time to time.

Dogs are a clear winner as the funniest animal—especially wiener dogs, Chihuahuas and pugs—judging by payouts from the series, which begins its 20th year on ABC next month.

For example, there was the bug-eyed Chihuahua getting a bath in a sink. "It was the homeliest dog, big bulging eyes that looked in opposite directions, his tongue was hanging out, and he was soaking wet, the sweetest thing," said co-executive producer and writer Todd Thicke

"You weren't even sure it was an animal," added executive producer Vin Di Bona.

In the show's first 19 years, 260 animal videos have won $2.2 million for their videographers. More than half those winners (136) have been dogs for $1.4 million in prize money. There have been 34 cat champs making $210,000 and 22 birds sharing $115,000. Next comes the nutty part: Nine squirrels have shared $54,000.



AP

This screen grab released by ABC and "America's Funniest Home Videos", shows a Chihuahua getting a bath in a sink from "America's Funniest Home Videos", which begins its 20th year in November.

"We might not get a lot of squirrel videos, but when we do, they come through for us. They are high percentage rodents," Thicke said. Almost all the clips involve people in tight spaces trying to get away from the squirrels, Di Bona said.

There have been multiple wins for raccoons, giraffes, goats, horses, monkeys, bears, hamsters, llamas, mice, praying mantises and whales. In the one-time wonder category are the ant, bull, camel, chimp, deer, elk, ferret, fish, fly, frog, gorilla, guinea pig, kangaroo, lizard, orangutan, ostrich, ram, rat, rhino, sea lion, spider, snake, tarantula and toad.

Between them, Di Bona, Thicke and co-executive producer Michelle Nasraway could come up with only one animal they hadn't seen—the tsetse fly.

Former Letterman writer claims hostile environment

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A former writer for David Letterman says she quit his NBC show because of alleged sexual favoritism and a hostile work environment.

Nell Scovell, writing for Vanity Fair online Tuesday, said Letterman didn't "hit on her" during her stint with NBC's "Late Night with David Letterman."

But Scovell writes that he paid extra attention to her and was rumored to be involved in sexual relationships with other female staffers.

Scovell says she believes those women benefited professionally. But Scovell, who went on to a successful writing career, said she doesn't want to file a lawsuit.

Letterman, who moved to CBS in 1993, has admitted to workplace affairs that led to an alleged blackmail plot.

Letterman and Scovell did not immediately return requests for comment.

'Da Vinci Code' publisher changes jobs

NEW YORK (AP)—Dan Brown's former publisher has a new job.

Stephen Rubin, who resigned last month from Random House Inc., will be the president and publisher of Henry Holt and Company, where authors include Man Booker Prize winner Hilary Mantel and National Book Award finalist Greg Grandin. According to Holt's parent company, Macmillan, Rubin will start Nov. 2.

Rubin

"Throughout my career, I have always strived to publish those exceptional books that bridge the gap between commerce and literature," Rubin said in a statement issued Tuesday by Macmillan. "I believe that Holt is the perfect place to do this."

Rubin was the longtime head of the Broadway Doubleday division of Random House and published John Grisham, Pat Conroy and Brown, whose "The Da Vinci Code" is among the best-selling novels in history. Rubin also worked with Ian McEwan, Margaret Atwood and other, more literary authors.

Holt has released such popular books as Barbara Ehrenreich's "Nickel and Dimed," but is better known for publishing more low-profile, literary titles, a direction Macmillan CEO John Sargent says will change.

"We're moving Holt from being sort of a midlist driven, serious publisher to being pretty front and center," Sargent said Tuesday. "To do that and do that quickly, you need someone who comes from that background."

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Corey Feldman's wife files for divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Court records show Corey Feldman's wife has filed for divorce after seven years of marriage. The records show Susannah Feldman filed for divorce last week and cited irreconcilable differences for the breakup. The couple were married in October 2002. They have a 5-year-old son. Feldman gained widespread popularity starring in 1980s films such "The Goonies" and "The Lost Boys." Susannah Feldman is seeking sole custody of their son, with visitation rights for Corey Feldman. She is also seeking an unspecified amount of spousal support. A phone message left for Corey Feldman's publicist was not immediately returned Tuesday.

Madonna and son visit his Malawi orphanage

MCHINJI, Malawi (AP)—Madonna and her four children have visited the orphanage that kept one of her sons before his 2008 adoption from the impoverished southern African country. Home of Hope Child Care Center director Lucy Chipeta says she showed Madonna and her son David his crib during their Tuesday visit to the orphanage near the Zambian border. Siblings Lourdes, Rocco and Mercy—who was adopted from Malawi earlier this year—joined their mother on the tour of the orphanage, where Madonna's Raising Malawi charity has built several new buildings. Madonna and her children arrived in Malawi on Sunday. On Monday she broke ground at her charity's new school for girls. About 500,000 children in this nation of 12 million have lost a parent to AIDS.

U2 to play free show to mark fall of Berlin Wall

BERLIN (AP)—Achtung, baby: U2 will play a free concert in Berlin to help the city celebrate 20 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall. Music network MTV said the Irish rockers will perform in front of the Brandenburg Gate on Nov. 5 during the MTV Europe Music AwardsThe show will be beamed into the awards ceremony at Berlin's O2 World arena. U2 manager Paul McGuinness said it would be exciting to be in Berlin, "20 years almost to the day since the wall came down." The wall fell Nov. 9, 1989, ending almost 30 years of separation between east and west. U2's 1991 album "Achtung Baby" was partly inspired by the band's stay in the city.

'Survivor' champ says he's victim of 'witch hunt'

BOSTON (AP)—"Survivor" winner Richard Hatch says he's the victim of a "witch hunt" by federal prosecutors. Hatch completed a tax evasion sentence earlier this month. He complained to NBC's "Today" show Tuesday that he was taken from his sister's apartment while wearing boxer shorts in August and held in solitary confinement for 30 days after granting TV interviews without permission. He called it "the worst time of my time in prison." But Barnstable County, Mass., Sheriff James Cummings says Hatch refused to get dressed when deputies arrived to take him to jail. The sheriff also disputes that Hatch was in solitary confinement. Cummings calls Hatch "a stranger to the truth." Hatch was convicted in 2006 of failing to pay taxes on the $1 million he won in 2000 on the CBS reality show.

Broadway's Tony plans 'West Side Story' departure

NEW YORK (AP)—Broadway's Tony in the revival of "West Side Story" will say goodbye to the hit musical in December. Matt Cavenaugh says he will leave the show Dec. 13 when his contract with the production ends. Cavenaugh will have played the role in the musical since it began its tryout late last year in Washington. The actor plans to star in a television pilot and develop a concert series celebrating the music of Leonard Bernstein, composer of "West Side Story." The current stage production, directed by Arthur Laurents, opened last March at the Palace Theatre and has been doing strong business since then, recouping its $14 million investment in less than eight months.

Special-needs children require special parents

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: On Aug. 10 you printed a letter from an aunt who was upset because her sister, the mother of a child with autism, doesn't have time to join in fundraising with her and the rest of the family. While I commend the writer and her family for raising money for autism research, that woman needs to cut her sister some slack.

Very few parents (thank goodness for them, though) have the emotional energy, not to mention time, to advocate for their child's special needs. I commend you for giving the writer of that letter the answer you did. I would challenge anyone who thinks he or she could "handle it" to walk a mile in our shoes. Our entire lives center around our children and their doctors' appointments, therapy, special schooling, adaptive equipment, etc. The last thing we need to hear is some self-righteous know-it-all putting us down for something we were hand-picked by God to do.

SPECIAL-NEEDS MOM IN ALABAMA

DEAR MOM: I heard from the parents of many special-needs children who echoed your sentiments. And you're right—it does take a very special parent not to crack under the stress. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I am the mother of two boys with special needs who are around his age, and I can assure you, that woman is already "very involved" in a way her sister cannot even begin to imagine. It is a labor of love that requires intense attention to their every action and potential need.

Perhaps "Raising Money" should spend an entire day being the primary caregiver for her nephew while trying to complete household responsibilities or work. I cannot tell you the number of times I have cried in my car out of sheer fatigue (I now carry tissue in the glove box).

The most charitable thing this aunt could do is to show up on her sister's doorstep with dinner, an offer to do the laundry, and a long, comforting hug.

CINDY IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: No one fully understands what a parent with a child with a disability goes through from day one. First there is the emotional aspect. We grieve. It's not the kind of grieving you do after a death. This is grieving that never ends. It cycles over and over. If you're not crying, you're angry. Some days you can accept and breathe; other days you just can't. Anything can set you back, and suddenly you're sobbing again.

Not only is there the day-to-day caring for the child—feeding, dressing, hygiene, to name a few—but also phone calls, meetings, doctor visits, therapies. When the kids are little, many of these things aren't too bad. But as they get older, larger, stronger, it breaks the caregiver's body and spirit.

There is also the problem of not being able to get needed services. In many states, once children are out of the school system and on the waiting list for adult services, they sit and languish at home with NO services until they qualify for accommodations. In some states that can be many years. And there's no portability of services between states, so if you must relocate, you go to the bottom of that state's waiting list.

Living with that, we often can't get or hold jobs. Day care is a huge problem for us and our kids. If that woman really wants to help, she should offer respite care and get involved with the waiting list issue, which is as important as research.

SONJA IN COLORADO

DEAR SONJA: In this time of draconian cutbacks everywhere, I hope our politicians will direct their thinking away from divisive politics and being re-elected to what must be done to help our most vulnerable citizens.

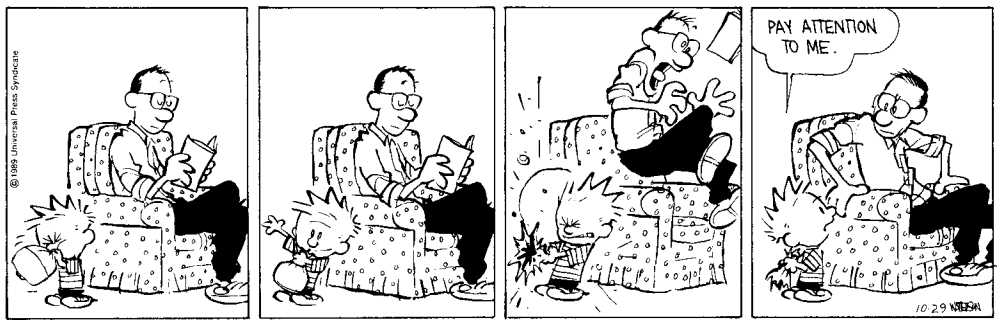
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $12 (U.S. funds)

Pastimes

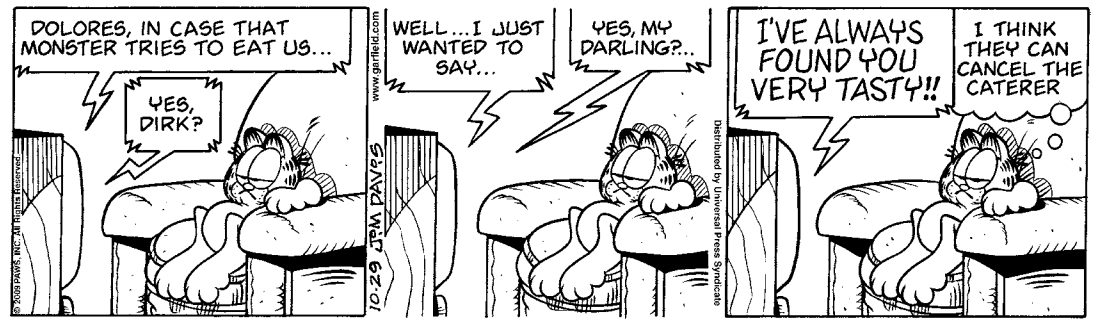
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis


DOLORES, IN CASE THAT MONSTER TRIES TO EAT US...
YES, DIRK?
WELL...I JUST WANTED TO SAY...
YES, MY DARLING?..
I'VE ALWAYS FOUND YOU VERY TASTY!!
I THINK THEY CAN CANCEL THE CATERER
10.29 JIM DAVIS

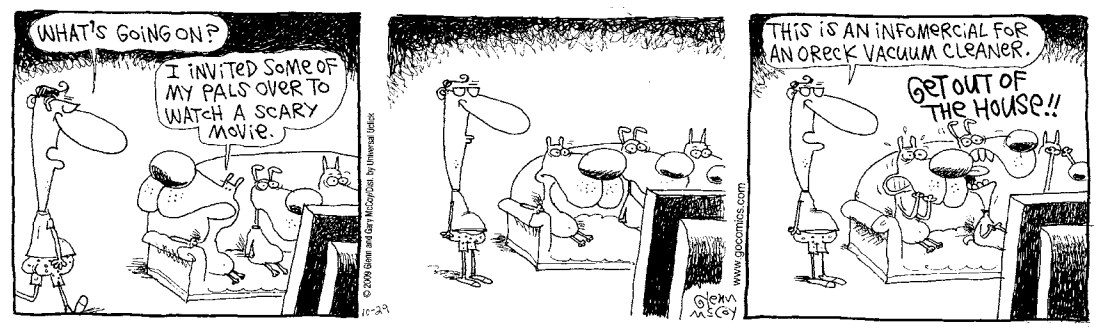
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHAT SHOULD BE ON THE MENU FOR HALLOWEEN?
INSULIN.
BE CAREFUL, LAURA. "BIG CANDY" DOESN'T LIKE THAT TYPE OF TALK.
"BIG CANDY"?
THE CONSORTIUM OF INDUSTRIAL CANDY MAKERS. THEY'RE QUITE POWERFUL.
AND THEY DON'T LIKE PEOPLE TELLING THE TRUTH!
I'M JUST SAYING BE CAREFUL. IF THEY CAN TURN BEARS INTO GUMMIES, WHO KNOWS WHAT THEY'LL DO TO US.
10-29

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


WHAT'S GOING ON?
I INVITED SOME OF MY PALS OVER TO WATCH A SCARY MOVIE.
THIS IS AN INFOMERCIAL FOR AN ORECK VACUUM CLEANER.
GET OUT OF THE HOUSE!!
10-29

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Picks out of a lineup
4 Piece for two
8 Speaker's place
12 "As if!"
13 Poet Pound
14 Expel
15 Green onion
17 Earthen pot
18 Shelter
19 One without snow tires?
21 "Ecce homo" sayer
24 Costa del —
25 Swiss canton
26 Blunder
28 Kathmandu's land
32 Source
34 Deity
36 Munro's pen name
37 Boredom
39 Wiretap
41 Energy
42 And so on (Abbr.)
44 White winter weasel
46 Auto's body
50 Lubricate
51 Posterior
52 Bundle of nerves?
56 Furniture store name
57 Enthusiastic
58 Individual
59 Moist in the morn
60 Optimistic
61 Affirmative action

DOWN
1 Half the ramifications
2 Medic
3 Colt's pop
4 Take out of context?
5 Submachine gun
6 Cupid's alias
7 Aquariums
8 Random drawings?
9 "— Lang Syne"
10 Capri, e.g.
11 Luminary
16 Meadow
20 Saturn model, 2003-07
21 100 percent
22 Press
23 Work unit
27 Filch
29 Big tent at an expo
30 Similar (to)
31 Rickey ingredient
33 Calendar box
35 Payable
38 Part of FWIW
40 Weak and unsteady
43 Stogie
45 Wire measure
46 Scolded
47 Raise
48 From the top
49 Palm starch
53 Ph. bk. data
54 "Sail — Ship of State!"
55 Actor Beatty

Solution time: 25 mins.

O	H	M	■	B	A	S	S	■	I	V	A	N
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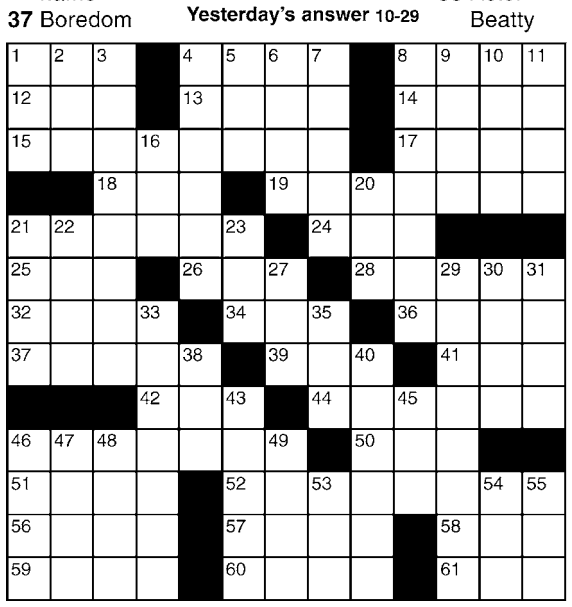
E	L	M	■	B	I	L	L	B	O	A	R	D
S	A	S	S	Y	■	■	T	O	N	■	■	■
■	■	■	O	S	S	A	■	T	I	M	E	S
B	I	L	L	I	N	G	S	■	C	A	V	E
O	N	O	■	T	O	G	A	S	■	Y	I	N
S	C	O	W	■	B	I	L	L	F	O	L	D
H	A	N	O	I	■	E	K	E	D	■	■	■
■	■	■	O	V	A	■	■	P	A	G	E	S
B	I	L	L	Y	G	O	A	T	■	L	A	O
O	D	I	E	■	R	A	N	I	■	I	S	M
G	O	I	N	■	A	K	I	N	■	B	E	E

Yesterday's answer 10-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Amit Paul, 26; Ben Foster, 29; Kate Jackson, 61; Richard Dreyfuss, 62

Happy Birthday: This is a great year to take a fresh look at some old ideas and make changes that enhance your outlook, image and your home environment. It's time to open up and include the thoughts and suggestions of the ones you love into your own game plan. Accomplishment will come easy and your journey will take you to a place you can call home. Your numbers are 6, 15, 18, 21, 29, 37, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't set yourself up by giving out too much information. You can be sure someone will go above and beyond the call of duty to get your attention. Get all the facts and figures you need. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't be so predictable. It's the element of surprise that will give you the edge when it comes to advancement, control and negotiating a deal. Avoid arguments with people to whom you are emotionally attached. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Tying up your cash or your time cannot be allowed. You have to protect what you have and refuse to give in to pressure. Concentrate on work and the relationships you feel are worthwhile. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): New experiences will do you good and will help to shape what's to come. Attend seminars, tradeshows or conferences. You can make physical and emotional changes that will boost your confidence and get you moving down a positive path. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Do your best to please the people you care for. A change within a partnership will catch you by surprise. Be upfront. Love is on the rise and can play an important role in your financial future. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You can make some emotional pleas that will help you sort out any personal problems you've been harboring. Some alterations could make a difference to someone you are trying to please. Communication and nurturing a situation will lead to a better future. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Make a move that enables you to put your talents to better use. Look for a position that will allow you to do what you do best and you will gain security and greater stability in your life financially. Networking will pay off. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't do anything that isn't necessary, especially if it entails travel or dealing with government or institutions. Keep things mellow and avoid anyone who appears to be argumentative. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You will be tempted by an offer. Before you decide to accept, consider the consequences and whether you are prepared to deal with someone who may not approve. Face any dilemma head on; avoiding issues will only make matters worse. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Keep things out in the open so you cannot be accused of going behind someone's back. An old lover or friend is likely to come to mind. You may want to get in touch but don't get lured into a complicated situation. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): It will be easy to set someone off who doesn't like change or feels threatened by what you are doing. You must avoid errors now by being honest about the way you feel and the way you see things unfolding. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Before you make a poor judgment call, ask someone you trust for an outsider's opinion. It's better to be safe than sorry when dealing with issues that concern both emotions and finances. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are creative, warm, affectionate and loving. You have a great sense of who you are and who you want to become. You will fight for your beliefs.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9								2
	2			7			5	
4			1					6
			8		2	4		
	5						8	
		6	3		1			
3					6			5
	4			9			1	
1								3

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	7	1	2	3	6	9	8	5
5	6	3	7	8	9	4	2	1
9	8	2	1	5	4	7	3	6
8	2	7	6	9	1	5	4	3
6	5	9	3	4	2	8	1	7
3	1	4	5	7	8	6	9	2
1	4	6	9	2	5	3	7	8
7	9	5	8	1	3	2	6	4
2	3	8	4	6	7	1	5	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/28

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION **Solution: 9 letters**

P	C	S	W	K	R	O	W	T	E	N	R	S	A	E
M	H	O	T	O	C	U	L	T	U	R	E	D	C	X
E	A	E	M	U	R	T	G	R	I	D	S	N	Q	P
S	N	T	N	M	D	L	P	L	O	T	E	E	U	A
R	N	L	H	O	U	I	D	N	C	I	A	I	A	N
U	E	I	L	E	M	N	E	W	C	O	R	R	I	S
O	L	A	S	E	M	E	I	S	I	K	C	F	N	I
C	L	M	N	S	I	A	N	C	O	D	H	D	T	O
I	I	E	U	V	O	O	T	O	A	G	E	E	A	N
R	A	F	O	M	I	F	B	I	N	T	G	N	N	G
C	R	M	F	T	I	E	T	I	C	R	I	I	C	I
L	T	E	A	A	C	X	P	W	A	A	E	O	E	S
E	S	C	S	A	R	P	A	T	A	M	L	J	N	E
W	O	L	F	(P)	(A)	(T)	(H)	M	A	R	G	A	I	D
L	S	T	E	M	M	I	N	G	S	L	E	V	E	L

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Acquaintance, Channel, Circle, Communication, Course, Culture, Design, Diagram, E-mail, Expansion, Facebook, Flow, Friend, Game, Grid, Joined, Levels, Location, Mapping, Mathematical, Maximum, Movie, Network, Nodes, Outline, Path, Phenomenon, Plot, Research, Science, Software, Stemming, Studies, Target, Traffic, Trail, Worldwide

Yesterday's Answer: Knitted

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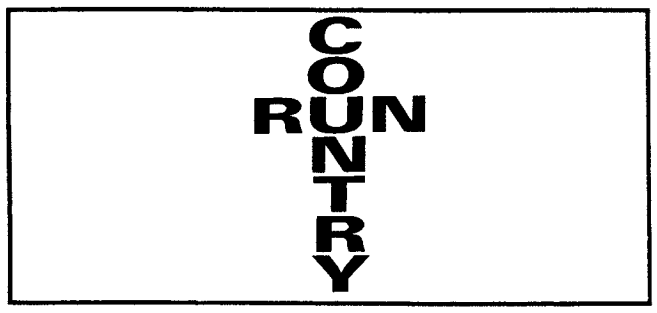

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Find today's solution in this section

WHATZIT Solution:
Cross country run

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, : CIVIL ACTION NO. 06-0596

Plaintiff,

-v-

JULIANA R. OLKERIIL and JUNIOR N. ORKERIIL,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 15, 2009, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot 004 B 44, situated in Tanapag, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 1,164 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 004 B 02 dated December 26, 1991, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 92-108, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, November 6, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 16th day of September, 2009:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST
1ST Floor Morgen Building, San Jose
P.O. Box 501089, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 235-4401/4402
Fax: (670) 235-4450

NOTICE OF AUCTION
Ref: Lot 011 G 71
Kagman, Saipan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot 011 G 71, located in the village of Kagman III on Agatelang Ave., on the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 770 square meters, more or less, as shown on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 03, which was recorded on December 16, 1993, as Document No. 93-4411, at the Land Registry Office in Saipan, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Property Description. Located on the property is a three bedroom, one bathroom, fully concrete house. Amenities include an installed septic tank, an outside porch, and a one car garage. House condition is slightly deteriorated, and repairs to septic system, flooring, and finish work maybe necessary.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Saturday, November 21, 2009, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, 1st Floor Morgen Building, San Jose, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Condition of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. Withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres C/O Marianas Public Land Trust, 1st Floor Morgan Building, San Jose, P.O. Box 501089, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-235-4401/4402; Fax: 670-235-4450.
3. Deposit; payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Marianas Public Land Trust.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Marianas Public Land Trust reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; **contact the Marianas Public Land Trust for scheduled viewing and inspection time**. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 8th day of October, 2009.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

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Saipan Tribune

Vacancy Announcement
Board of Directors
Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities

The Board of Directors for the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities (Council) wishes to announce a board vacancy for the island of Saipan

The Council is a non-profit private corporation affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council's mission is to "foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of the humanities through support of educational programs that relate the humanities to the indigenous cultures and to the intellectual needs and interests of the people of the Commonwealth."

The Council's board is comprised of thirteen volunteer members who serve three year terms. The Council strives to maintain a board that reflects a broad cross section of our CNMI community. The ideal candidate will have a strong desire to promote the Council's mission, programs, and activities. Board responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Attending regular Council meetings four times annually;
- Participating in working committee meetings;
- Evaluating Council programs and activities;
- Reviewing grant applications;
- Raising funds and recruiting community partners;
- Providing input from various community members, and
- Attending conferences, workshops and other meetings on behalf of the NMI Council for the Humanities.

Interested individuals are invited to submit their letters of interest and resumes to **Charles P. Reyes Jr., Chair, Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities at Post Office Box 506437 Saipan, MP 96950** or may be delivered to the NMI Council for the Humanities office, located at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan. All letters of interest and resumes must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 13, 2009. For additional information, please contact the Council's Acting Executive Director at telephone 235-4785 or visit the Council's website at http://nmihumanities.org.

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

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• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Lakers beat Clippers in season opener

LOS ANGELES (AP)—There was no championship hangover for these Lakers. Kobe Bryant scored 33 points and Andrew Bynum added 26 on his 22nd birthday as the reigning NBA champions opened defense of their title Tuesday night with a 99-92 victory over the Clippers, their Staples Center co-tenants who played without injured No. 1 overall draft pick Blake Griffin.

The Lakers began the evening with a ceremony unveiling the franchise's 15th gold-and-purple championship banner, earned four months ago after defeating Orlando in the finals. Commissioner David Stern handed out diamond-encrusted rings to almost everyone from last season's team except for Ron Artest, who joined the Lakers in the offseason from Houston with the sole purpose of winning a gaudy bauble for himself. He traded places with Trevor Ariza, who replaced him with the Rockets.

The last time the Lakers opened a title defense was 2002-03, when they lost 87-82 to San Antonio.

Bryant was 11 of 12 from the line and had eight rebounds, while Bynum was 8 of 10 on free throws and had 13 rebounds.

Artest scored 10 points in his debut in the starting lineup. Pau Gasol sat out with a strained right hamstring and was replaced by Lamar Odom, who had 16 points and 13 rebounds.

Eric Gordon scored 21 points for the Clippers, who lost their ninth in a row to the Lakers. Chris Kaman added 18 points and 16 rebounds, Marcus Camby had 14 points, and reserve Craig Smith 12. Baron Davis was held to two points on 1 of 10 shooting.

Hoping to erase the memories of last season's 19-63 record, the Clippers got a jolt of bad news a day before the season began when they learned Griffin will be out for up to six weeks with a broken left kneecap. Dressed in a suit and tie, he watched from a seat behind the bench.

Still, the Clippers kept it close at times, even if their only lead was by one early in the game. They trailed by 12 early in the third and closed to 76-75 on Camby's alley-oop dunk at the end of the period.

AP

Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant passes around Los Angeles Clippers center Chris Kaman to teammate Andrew Bynum who scores in the second half of a NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2009, in Los Angeles.

But the Lakers opened the fourth with an 10-2 run and soon pushed their lead to 89-79 on Odom's 3-pointer, energizing a mostly blase crowd that included David Beckham, Jack Nicholson, Charlize Theron and Odom's new wife, reality starlet Khloe Kardashian.

The Clippers committed nine turnovers in the first quarter when they trailed by 10, the same margin they were behind by at halftime.

Celtics 95, Cavaliers 89

At Cleveland, the Boston Celtics beat Cleveland in the NBA season opener, spoiling the hyped debut of the Cavaliers with LeBron James and Shaquille O'Neal.

James, the league MVP, and O'Neal were shaded by Boston's reunited Big Three. Paul Pierce scored 23 points, Ray Allen 16 and Kevin Garnett 13 in his first regular-season game since last March.

Pierce made two crucial jumpers and two free throws in the final 1:03 to pace the Celtics, whose drive to a second straight NBA title was derailed when Garnett injured his knee late last season. Rasheed Wallace, added as a free agent during the offseason, had 12 points.

James scored 38 and O'Neal added 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Cavaliers.

Wizards 102, Mavericks 91

At Dallas, Gilbert Arenas had 29 points and nine assists to help stake Washington to an early lead over revamped Dallas in Flip Saunders' debut as Wizards coach.

Arenas shot 10 of 21 and made 8-of-9 free throws for his most points since Nov. 14, 2007. He played only 13 games that season, then had a total of 26 points in two games last season, all because of knee problems. He's feeling so good now that he's not even wearing a brace.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 34 points, but was only 10 of 25. He was 12 of 13 from the foul line—all in the first half. Shawn Marion had 16 points, seven rebounds and three blocks in his Dallas debut, but didn't have any baskets in the middle two quarters.

Trail Blazers 96, Rockets 87

At Portland, Oregon, reserve Travis Outlaw scored 23 points as Portland beat Houston in the season opener.

Brandon Roy added 20 points and five assists for the Blazers. Portland hit 20 of 22 free throws and outrebounded Houston 51-33.

Aaron Brooks had 19 points for the Rockets, who defeated Portland in six games this past spring in the first round of the playoffs.

That was a much different Houston team, though. Rockets center Yao Ming is out for the season after offseason foot surgery, Tracy McGrady is still recovering from knee surgery and Ron Artest—who pestered the Blazers—left for the Lakers as a free agent.

Lakers raise championship banner, get rings

LOS ANGELES (AP—Derek Fisher led the Staples Center crowd in a 3-2-1 countdown to the unveiling of the banner commemorating the Los Angeles Lakers' 15th championship.

Then the Lakers got back to work on counting to 16.

Nine former Lakers joined the crowd in welcoming the franchise's latest bunch of champions into their fraternity Tuesday night before the season opener against the Clippers. Wearing purple warmup jackets with 15 gold stars on the back, the Lakers' remarkably intact roster received its rings from NBA commissioner David Stern and Lakers executive vice president Jeanie Buss.

"Tonight is such a special night for our team," Fisher said to the crowd. "We know every night we come out here ... the support from you has just been unbelievable all these years."

Kobe Bryant got the final ring—and congratulations from Lakers greats including Jerry West and Magic Johnson—before the new gold banner was revealed high atop the arena.

Stern encouraged cheers for "a Laker team that showed us an extraordinary amount of dedication ... and to the Laker fans around the world."

Calling him "the greatest owner in sports," Johnson urged a standing ovation for 75-year-old Jerry Buss, who watched from a luxury box high up in Staples Center.

West represented the Lakers' 1972 champions. He was joined by Norm Nixon (1980), Jamaal Wilkes (1982), James Worthy (1985), Michael Cooper (1987), Johnson (1988), A.C. Green (2000), Rick Fox (2001) and Robert Horry (2002). The Lakers also won five titles in Minneapolis.

NBA career scoring leader Kareem Abdul-Jabbar even was on hand to accept his ring as a special assistant coach to the current Lakers.

Twelve members of last season's team are back with the Lakers this season, from noncontributors such as Adam Morrison and DJ Mbenga to every significant member of last season's squad except Trevor Ariza, who swapped places with Ron Artest in Houston.

The Lakers rolled to their 10th title on the West Coast through a difficult playoff run, including a seven-game series against the Rockets and a six-game triumph over Denver in the Western Conference finals.

Los Angeles finally eliminated the Orlando Magic in five games, leading to a championship parade and celebration at the Coliseum. Bryant was the finals MVP after winning his first title without Shaquille O'Neal.

After the banner unveiling and cheers to the strains of Randy Newman's "I Love L.A.," the Lakers all placed their rings on a table next to the Larry O'Brien Trophy and faced the Clippers, taking a 59-49 lead at halftime.

Lakers coach Phil Jackson got a special ovation from the crowd when he received his 10th championship ring as a coach, in addition to the ring he still occasionally wears from his playing days with the New York Knicks.

That Knicks ring is missing a diamond after he lost it at a Bennigan's restaurant while he was an assistant coach with the Chicago Bulls, whom he later coached to six championships. Yet the Knicks ring is perhaps the only one in his collection that's suitable for day-to-day wear, given the baubles' gradual increases in size and ostentatiousness over the years.

"I don't think any of them are wearable since they went to this format," Jackson said, calling them "too gaudy, too large. You can't shake hands with anybody."

Jackson typically breaks out the ring from his most recent title during the following playoff run, which means he's been breaking out the Lakers' 2002 title ring for the past few postseasons.

"I really disliked that ring," he said with a laugh. "It looked like a clown's face, actually."

Beasley eager for season to start

MIAMI (AP)—Michael Beasley will be on the court for the Miami Heat for the opening tip-off Wednesday night, apparently poised to become a starting forward.

Not long ago, that seemed far from being a sure thing.

The longest offseason of Beasley's young life is finally over, a six-month roller-coaster replete with two infamous Twitter flameouts and a stay at a Houston rehabilitation facility. All behind him, Beasley said, noting that he's been sober since Aug. 6 and vowing that his game will benefit from all the rough patches.

"I think I've worked harder now than I did last year," Beasley said. "Last year, I found myself coasting through sometimes, just going through the motions. This year, I'm a little more hungry."

His oft-discussed troubles include disturbing messages and a conversation-sparking photo in a tattoo establishment posted on his now-closed Twitter feeds, more than a month in rehab, and by his own acknowledgment, membership in the NBA substance-abuse program.

"All behind me," Beasley said.

But his rookie season was still promising: He averaged 13.9 points in 81 games, shot 47 percent and saw marked increases in just about every stat category after the All-Star break. The offseason of discontent over, the Heat expect to see Beasley's level of play keep improving this year, starting with Wednesday's opener against the New York Knicks.

"He's making progress. I like what he's done this preseason. I do," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "I keep on pointing to his focus, but I think we were able to cover a lot more ground. I see a quicker application from practice to the games. ... And defensively, he's done some things that I like. He needs to keep on going."

Spoelstra declined to reveal his opening-night lineup, but players at practice Tuesday said Quentin Richardson will start against the Knicks at small forward, with Beasley starting at power forward—a move that, if it happens, would have Heat veteran Udonis Haslem coming off the bench, at least for one game.

That's a shocker, considering Haslem has been a reserve in only two contest in the previous five seasons: A meaningless end-of-regular-season game at Atlanta in April 2006, and a game where he was returning from an injury against Philadelphia in February 2008.

For his part, Beasley said the starting-or-not issue wasn't relevant to him.

"It doesn't matter. As long as my team's winning, I can come off the bench, I can be the sixth or seventh man," Beasley said. "As long as I'm contributing to my team positively, it doesn't matter."

What does matter, in his mind, is playing late in games.

Crunch time often meant sitting time for Beasley last season. He played in 81 games, but only appeared in the final 3 minutes of regulation 44 times, logging 91 minutes—more than 50 fewer than Dwyane Wade, Haslem, Mario Chalmers and Daequan Cook were called upon to get in the deciding minutes.

One of his goals this year is to be a go-to option for Spoelstra when the outcome hangs in the balance.

"I would say, for the most part, the last 2 1/2, 3 months, I was pretty liberal with his time," Spoelstra said. "He would play through it. Other than foul trouble, he was playing through mistakes. He was also making less mistakes. The last couple months of the season, he was extremely efficient offensively."

He spoke earlier this offseason of wanting to prove to his team, both on the court and off, that he's worthy of their trust. The Heat took him with the No. 2 draft pick in 2008, have included him prominently in marketing campaigns, and both Spoelstra and team president Pat Riley rave about his potential as a scorer.

Teammates are sold that his troubles are in the past.

Starting Wednesday, Beasley gets his chance to show the rest of the NBA the same.

"I'll do whatever I have to do," Beasley said.

A-Rod and Howard add luster to starry World Series

NEW YORK (AP)—Ryan Howard thought about the World Series and his eyes widened.

"Between Yankee Stadium and Philly, it's going to be, I would have to say, probably one of the rowdiest World Series—just between the fans," he said.

Sure will be if Howard and Alex Rodriguez start teeing off in their high-profile slugger showdown.

For the first time in 20 years, the World Series will feature a pair of former major league home run champions when it opens, weather permitting, on Wednesday night.

No player in the major leagues has been scrutinized more than A-Rod, a postseason star following a scandalous spring training that include a steroid admission and hip surgery.

And Howard has carried the defending champion Philadelphia Phillies every bit as much as Rodriguez has propelled the Yankees to their first Series appearance since 2003—and the first of his career.

"Ryan, along with his power, he's also become a great hitter," Rodriguez said Tuesday. "And that's bad news for the National League and bad news for us."

The 34-year-old Rodriguez already has succeeded Reggie Jackson as the favorite Yankees target of wannabe amateur psychologists, who try to analyze past playoff flops and his relationships with Madonna last year and Kate Hudson this season. Now he wants to follow Mr. October as a champion.

A three-time AL MVP, he entered the first round against Minnesota hitting .136 (8 for 59) in the postseason dating to 2004 and was hitless in 18 consecutive playoff at-bats with runners in scoring position.

What a change.

AP

New York Yankees' Eric Hinske, left, and CC Sabathia walk past a logo on the field at Yankee Stadium during a practice session for the Major League Baseball World Series Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2009, in New York.

He led the Yankees with a .438 average, five homers and 12 RBIs in the victories over the Twins and Los Angeles Angels, hitting tying home runs in the seventh, ninth and 11th innings.

"I think everyone is looking for a profound answer, and I don't have one," he said, sitting behind a table in Yankee Stadium's Great Hall as baseball adopted an NFL-style approach to Series publicity for the first time.

"I think at the end of the day, I'm content. I'm happy, both on and off the field," Rodriguez said. "I think I've cut out a lot of the fat, or unnecessary distractions."

The 29-year-old Howard also needed a winding, if less notorious, path to postseason success. He had only one RBI in reach of his first two playoff series while hitting .217 (5 for 23), then batted .300 with two RBIs against the Los Angeles Dodgers in last year's NL championship series. He then hit three homers and drove in six runs in leading the Phillies over the Tampa Bay Rays for Philadelphia's second-ever title.

And this year, he's batted .355 with 14 RBIs in the playoffs against the Rockies and Dodgers.

"I think that our approaches this postseason, as opposed to be previous postseasons, are a lot better," Howard said. "I think both of us are a lot more patient, both of us are a lot more relaxed, it looks like. You know, I'm going out there just having fun. It looks like that's what he's doing, as well."

Both teams worked out Tuesday in the mist of $1.5 billion new Yankee Stadium, where two freshly painted logos were in foul territory in honor of the ballpark's first World Series. Still standing across the street, covered in black mesh as if a ghost, is its 86-year-old predecessor, awaiting demolition after hosting a record 100 Series games.

CC Sabathia, 3-0 with a 1.19 ERA in his first postseason with the Yankees, starts for New York against former Cleveland teammate Cliff Lee, 2-0 with an 0.74 ERA for the Phillies. It's a rematch of the April 16 ballpark opener, won by the Indians 10-2.

This will be only the second Series with two former season home runs leaders since 1975's faceoff between Cincinnati's Johnny Bench and Boston's Carl Yastrzemski, according to STATS LLC. The other was in 1989's Earthquake Series, when Oakland's Bash Brothers of Jose Canseco and Mark McGwire swept San Francisco and Kevin Mitchell.

Rodriguez had a remarkable season, especially after missing the first month following March 9 surgery to repair torn cartilage in his right hip. He homered on his first and last swings of the regular season, reaching 30 homers and 100 RBIs for the 12th consecutive year by hitting a three-run homer and a grand slam in a single inning at Tampa Bay.

He said two close friends - he didn't identify them - took him to breakfast at spring training after he admitted using steroids from 2001-3, and they told him he had to change. He called it "tough love."

Since then, he's eliminated many of the advisers and outside experts who made him more of a business than a ballplayer. He said he also stopped obsessing on putting up big statistics and beating himself up when he didn't. His only goal was the Yankees' 27th title, their first since 2000.

"For me it was obvious in spring training I hit rock bottom," he said. "You can only hit your head against the wall so many times, you know, before you figure out there's another way to get to the other side of the wall."

Rodriguez said sitting at the table reminded him of his spring training news conference, when he took heart that his teammates and Yankees staff sat near him "when a lot of people were running the other way."

Howard has managed to maintain himself as a player throughout, not a commodity. He's paid attention to Rodriguez—for the baseball, not the business.

"I've watched A-Rod and just tried to study guys like A-Rod, study like Manny, Albert," he said, a reference to Manny Ramirez and Albert Pujols. "You don't want to be known as just a slugger. You want to be known as a good hitter or a great hitter."

And this Series features two of them.

Agassi admits using crystal meth in autobiography

NEW YORK (AP)—Andre Agassi's upcoming autobiography contains an admission that he used crystal meth in 1997 and lied to tennis authorities when he failed a drug test—a result that was thrown out after he said he "unwittingly" took the substance.

According to an excerpt of the autobiography posted on The Times of London Web site Tuesday, the eight-time Grand Slam champion writes that he sent a letter to the ATP tour to explain the positive test, saying he accidentally drank from a soda spiked with meth by his assistant "Slim."

"Then I come to the central lie of the letter," Agassi writes. "I say that recently I drank accidentally from one of Slim's spiked sodas, unwittingly ingesting his drugs. I ask for understanding and leniency and hastily sign it: Sincerely.

"I feel ashamed, of course. I promise myself that this lie is the end of it. The ATP reviewed the case—and threw it out."

The ATP did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Agassi retired in 2006. Excerpts from his autobiography, which comes out Nov. 9, are being published this week in the London newspaper, as well as Sports Illustrated and People magazines.

In a story posted on People magazine's Web site Tuesday, Agassi says: "I can't speak to addiction, but a lot of people would say that if you're using anything as an escape, you have a problem."

According to the Times of London Web site, Agassi writes in his book that "Slim" was the person who introduced him to crystal meth, dumping a small pile of powder on the coffee table.

"I snort some. I ease back on the couch and consider the Rubicon I've just crossed," Agassi writes.

"There is a moment of regret, followed by vast sadness. Then comes a tidal wave of euphoria that sweeps away every negative thought in my head. I've never felt so alive, so hopeful—and I've never felt such energy."

"I'm seized by a desperate desire to clean. I go tearing around my house, cleaning it from top to bottom. I dust the furniture. I scour the tub. I make the beds."

Among the most successful—and, without a doubt, one of the most popular—tennis players in history, Agassi drew attention not just for his play, but also for his outfits, his hairstyles and his relationships with women, including a failed marriage to actress Brooke Shields.

Agassi's first major championship came at Wimbledon in 1992, and he won a gold medal at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. But by late 1997, he dropped to No. 141 in the rankings, and he was playing in tennis' equivalent of the minor leagues.

He resuscitated his career in 1998, making the biggest one-year jump into the top 10 in the history of the ATP rankings. The next season, he won the French Open to complete a career Grand Slam, then added a second career U.S. Open title en route to finishing 1999 at No. 1.

In a posting on People's Web site, Agassi says he "was worried for a moment, but not for long," about how fans would react if they found out he used drugs.

"I wore my heart on my sleeve and my emotions were always written on my face. I was actually excited about telling the world the whole story," Agassi says.

A writer from SI first revealed the crystal meth reference on a Twitter posting Tuesday.

According to the Times of London excerpt, Agassi was walking through New York's LaGuardia airport when he got the call that he had failed a drug test.

"There is doom in his voice, as if he's going to tell me I'm dying," Agassi writes. "And that's exactly what he tells me."

"He reminds me that tennis has three classes of drug violation," Agassi writes. "Performance-enhancing drugs ... would constitute a Class 1, he says, which would carry a suspension of two years. However, he adds, crystal meth would seem to be a clear case of Class 2. Recreational drugs." That would mean a three-month suspension.

"My name, my career, everything is now on the line. Whatever I've achieved, whatever I've worked for, might soon mean nothing. Days later I sit in a hard-backed chair, a legal pad in my lap, and write a letter to the ATP. It's filled with lies interwoven with bits of truth."

In 2007, Martina Hingis tested positive for cocaine after a third-round exit at Wimbledon. She denied using the drug but was banned for two years. In July, Frenchman Richard Gasquet was cleared to resume playing after a 2 1/2-month ban upon persuading the International Tennis Federation's tribunal panel that he inadvertently took cocaine by kissing a woman in a nightclub.

Mendoza goes undefeated at Top Pool Bar

Juancho Mendoza capped his undefeated run in the eliminations of the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament by beating Zheng Jian Qing for the championship last Oct. 17 at the Garapan sports bar and watering hole.

After cleaning out all their object balls, both played a war of attrition by coming up with safety shots.

Zheng, however, underestimated Mendoza's skills by giving him a shot on the 8-ball.

Mendoza rose up to the challenge by converting on a crucial do-or-die bank shot to win the match and the championship.

It was a perfect ending for a perfect evening for Mendoza. He came out of the first round after beating Zheng. Other first round winners were Luis Fajardo (over Roger Espiritu), Chester Cuento (over Mark Butac), and Fred Robiego (over Dean Borja).

Mendoza continued his win streak in the second round as he beat Robiego, while Fajardo got the better of Cuento to join Mendoza in the semifinals.

In the race for the twice-to-beat slot in the finals, Mendoza and Fajardo played top-flight pool but the latter misjudged the speed of the cue ball in his second to the last ball.

It was the opening the former was waiting for as Mendoza sank his last object ball and the 8-ball to advance to the championship.

In a series of elimination round matches for the second finals seat, Zheng capitalized on a Fajardo fouled shot as he proceeded to clean the table to advance to the championship.

Zheng, however, fell short in his quest for vengeance against Mendoza after watching helplessly as his first round tormentor made a miracle shot on the 8-ball for the win.

Mendoza earned $50 for the victory, while Zheng and Fajardo took home the runner-up purses of $20 and $10, respectively.

The Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament is held every Saturday and adopts a double-elimination format with a maximum of 16 players.

The entrance fee is $10 and the tournament uses the rules of the Billiards Congress of America. Practice is free between 7pm to 8pm on game day.

For more information on the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament, call manager Zheng at 287-7676.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament champion Juancho Mendoza is flanked by runners-up Luis Fajardo, left, and Zheng Jian Qing after the competition last Oct. 17.

JOSHUA

From Page 28

despite the overcrowding he experienced during the swim and bike legs and the hot weather he had to endure during the run part.

"The swim was perfect. Swimming with over 500 people didn't bother me. It was like the past events I've been in. When the start cannon went off everyone ran into the water. We were all fighting for space. I saw a pro triathlete grab an amateur triathlete by the shoulder and push him down as he swam forward. I saw that and I kept in mind that I didn't want the same thing to happen to me. I swam further out from the rest of the group. This is what happens in triathlons. It's part of the experience," Manglona said.

He timed in at 38:42 in the 1.5-kilometer swim and vowed to train harder in the water to have a better time next time.

"As soon as I got on my bike after the swim leg, I was attacked by stomach cramps. They went away but then another obstacle came. The course was mostly uphill, lots of loose gravel," Manglona said.

"However, the challenge was more on to get through crowded triathletes. It was a tight course. Some of them were taking their time because it was a dangerous course. When I was approaching a pack of bikers, I would warn them and they would move aside," he added.

In the 12-kilometer run, Manglona submitted a time of 1:12:39, jumping off the trail course like a deer.

"They called me a deer because I did a lot of jumping over logs and rocks. There was a log that others crawled under, but I ran and slid through it, cutting my time. In the run along the beach, my legs and lungs were burning because it was very hot," Manglona said.

"My XTERRA World experience was amazing. I am happy and proud to do the race in Maui. It was a dream come true," he added.

Manglona thanked the following for making his XTERRA World debut possible: IT&E, Brabu Pharmacy, Taga Inc., Saipan Bike Pro Shop, Dave Nicholas, Tinian Mayor Jose P. San Nicolas, Tinian senators and representatives, Terri and Kevan Clawson, NMITF, NMASA, and his family.

DAKOTA

From Page 28

year-old striker said.

The moment he learned tricks in the field, Hall became of the offensive threats for MP United.

He remembered scoring eight goals, the most he had, in a single game in a youth league organized by Northern Mariana Islands Football Association.

Hall also brought his explosive game in Japan, as early this year he was part of the MP United U14 Team that played six games in the Land of the Rising Sun. He and 10 other MP United players competed in six games (with one exhibition match) in Numazu City for two days and won three.

"We played against five different teams. It was a blast. I was the smallest/shortest in my team, but I can say that despite my built/frame, I did well. My favorite moment during that trip was when we versed Japan's women's national team," said Hall, who looks up to AC Milan's David Beckham for tricks and other impressive moves on the pitch.

"David Beckham is really good at doing tricks, free kicks and corner kicks," Hall said.

Imitating Beckham's tricks and doing some of his own earned Hall monikers.

"While I was playing in one of my previous games, I heard somebody referring to me as 'The Bullet'(I kick hard so the ball is fast). Somebody also called me 'The Trickster'(I like doing tricks). I kind of like 'The Trickster,' so I think I'll stick to that," he said.

Though getting recognition from his impressive games encouraged Hall to continue playing soccer, he said there are more important reasons why he is very much into the sport.

"Soccer helps me stay fit and healthy and I gained a lot of friends," Hall said.

SWEEP

From Page 28

nai flat-footed in the first set, cruising to a 21-8 win. Also on the team are Kim Peterson and Rex Jose.

In the second set, Nick Gross and Ed Cho teamed up in giving Angamwas a hard time, but good service game from Berline in the end helped his team pull off a 21-19 victory.

Despite losing the game after Angamwas swept the first two sets, Shogunai still put up a good show in the third set. Cho's sharp and strong service game gave Shogunai a 5-0 lead before Berline and crew made a comeback and eked out a 17-15 win.

In the third game, Random Radicals kept their unbeaten record (6-0) after downing Just Do It.

The Quincy Johnson-anchored Random Radicals took the first set easily, 21-5, before Just Do It bounced back in the second set and threatened an upset via a 21-17 victory.

The deciding third set ended in favor of Random Radicals, who nailed a 15-7 win.

Week 6 of the four-person beach volleyball league will conclude tonight with three scheduled games.

In the first match, Make It Bali will take on Chenutt Crew at 5:30pm. The second game at 6:30pm will have Manta Diver dueling O-No, while the third match of the night at 7:30pm will feature Git It challenging Fisingan.

The fall league has a round-robin format in the regular season, while the playoff round is a single-elimination affair. Only the Top 8 teams will advance to the playoffs.

BUDWEISER

From Page 28

the game schedule of the ongoing inter-government/business league.

Abner Venus, one of the coordinators of the league, said so far at least six teams had already shown an interest in the Budweiser caging, which will feature the top teams on the island.

Interested teams will only pay $600 entrance fee and each squad will receive a complete set on uniforms.

League organizers will accept only the first 10 teams to register and pay the entrance fee. Each team will have their designated color for the uniforms.

Docomo Pacific won the last edition of the Budweiser Cup after topping Ol'Aces in the finals played at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Docomo had a twice-to-beat advantage in the finals and quickly ended the championship showdown with its 88-80 victory in Game 1.

The CNMI Nationals, who were then preparing for the 2009 Oceania Basketball Tournament, took the pennant, but were eliminated in the playoffs. Diamond Auto Care, which finished fourth in the regular season, took the third place trophy.

The Nationals' Jericho Cruz was named regular season MVP, while Docomo's Mark Wallace took the Finals MVP plum.

For more information, contact Gabriel White at 234-6547 or Venus at 234-5911. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	1	0	1.000	–
New Jersey	0	0	.000	1/2
New York	0	0	.000	1/2
Philadelphia	0	0	.000	1/2
Toronto	0	0	.000	1/2

Southeast Division

Washington	1	0	1.000	–
Atlanta	0	0	.000	1/2
Charlotte	0	0	.000	1/2
Miami	0	0	.000	1/2
Orlando	0	0	.000	1/2

Central Division

Chicago	0	0	.000	–
Detroit	0	0	.000	–
Indiana	0	0	.000	–
Milwaukee	0	0	.000	–
Cleveland	0	1	.000	1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Memphis	0	0	.000	–
New Orleans	0	0	.000	–
San Antonio	0	0	.000	–
Dallas	0	1	.000	1/2
Houston	0	1	.000	1/2

Northwest Division

Portland	1	0	1.000	–
Denver	0	0	.000	1/2
Minnesota	0	0	.000	1/2
Oklahoma City	0	0	.000	1/2
Utah	0	0	.000	1/2

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	1	0	1.000	–
Golden State	0	0	.000	1/2
Phoenix	0	0	.000	1/2
Sacramento	0	0	.000	1/2
L.A. Clippers	0	1	.000	1

Yesterday's Games

Boston 95, Cleveland 89
Washington 102, Dallas 91
Portland 96, Houston 87
L.A. Lakers 99, L.A. Clippers 92

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

11th Micronesian Cup Outrigger Canoe Competition

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Animum Tasi Metgot paddlers celebrate their victory in the men's 12-mile race in the 11th Micronesian Cup Outrigger Canoe Competition held over the weekend in the waters off Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

Members of Haggan paddle their way to a third place finish in the men's 12-mile race.

Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club paddlers inch closer to shore after a runner-up finish in the 12-mile race.

Race director Rob Jordan briefs team captains of participating teams about the 12-mile course.

Members of Animum Tasi Metgot pose with their bailer trophy during the awards ceremony.

Participating teams in the women's 12-mile race leave the starting line on the shore of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Members of Japan's Ohana Hoe pose with their runner-up bailer trophies.

Mas Poksai paddlers make a turn back toward the starting line. Behind them are Fatuul paddlers.

Lantau paddlers switch their paddles to the right side.

Mendoza goes undefeated at Top Pool Bar

Juancho Mendoza capped his undefeated run in the eliminations of the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament by beating Zheng Jian Qing for the championship last Oct. 17 at the Garapan sports bar and watering hole. 26

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Lakers beat Clippers in season opener

There was no championship hangover for these Lakers. Kobe Bryant scored 33 points and Andrew Bynum added 26 on his 22nd birthday as the reigning NBA champions opened defense of their title Tuesday night with a 99-92 victory over the Clippers. 24

Joshua soldiers on sans seat

Two XTERRA World participants check the lost seat of Joshua Manglona's bike, center. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tinian triathlete Joshua Manglona made it to the finish line of the 32-kilometer bike race in one piece, but his bike didn't.

Manglona negotiated the last 4.8-kilometer of the bike leg without a seat and survived other challenges in the off-road race, making his debut in the 2009 XTERRA World Championship in Makena, Maui, Hawaii on Sunday (Monday on Saipan) an exciting one.

"I guessed I lost my seat while I was going very fast down this really steep hill. I just heard metal hitting the ground, and the sound it made. But I didn't know it was my seat. I found out I lost my seat when I tried to sit down and unexpectedly felt a poke. I screamed out of surprise, looked, and saw no bike seat." Manglona said.

However, losing the bike seat did not bother Manglona, as he was more worried of getting involved in a bike crash.

"I was worried more about getting a flat tire. I saw a lot of triathletes on the bike course got injured, got flats, and got damages on their bikes. I only lost a bike seat, so I am lucky," the 21-year-old triathlete said.

"I never felt like quitting even if I had no bike seat. A bike seat is crucial when you are tackling hills. Once or twice I forgot I lost my seat, I would sit down, scream again in surprise, and remember that I had no seat," he added.

XTERRA spirit

Manglona was proud to be part of XTERRA World race and its spirit of good sportsmanship.

"The XTERRA spirit in general is about good sportsmanship, even though it's a competitive sport. Some of the bikers who disqualified because they got injured or their bikes were damaged offered me their bike seats. However, I politely begged off because I knew the bike seat wasn't going to stop me from completing the race," Manglona said.

Manglona finished the bike leg in race 3:03:17. He could have completed the grueling race earlier had he not offered help to a fellow XTERRA World participant.

"I saw this lady who had her bike chain caught in the space between the bike rim and the bike frame. We tried untangling the chain, but it wouldn't budge. I spent about 15 minutes with her," Manglona said.

"When she decided she was done with the race, I wished her well and told her I'd see her at the finish line. It didn't feel right to me to see this lady, who is in her 50s, walking with her bike. That's when I decided to ask her if I could help," he added.

Perfect hot day

The race day was perfect for Manglona

See JOSHUA on Page 26

Budweiser caging meeting on Nov. 3

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Finals MVP Mark Wallace of Docomo, center, is hounded by Diamond Auto Care's Brendon Talania, left, and Junar Guiab during their playoff game in the 2009 Budweiser caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Organizers of the 2010 Budweiser Basketball League are calling on representatives of interested teams to attend a meeting on Nov. 3 at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The meeting is set for 6:30pm with organizers expected to discuss the league's schedule, tournament ground rules, and other important matters related to the annual caging.

The Budweiser caging is expected to kick off later next month with games to be played three times a week or every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The Budweiser caging is likely to take over

See BUDWEISER on Page 26

Sweep for Pwipwise, Angamwas

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Angamwas' Adam Hardwicke prepares to serve against Shogunai during their game in the NMIVA league on Tuesday night on the PIC sand court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Pwipwise recovered from a loss, while Angamwas kept its streak, following their sweep against separate foes in the 2009 PIC/Miller/Gatorade/Monster-NMIFA 4-Person Co-Ed Beach Volleyball Fall League on Tuesday on the PIC sand court.

Pwipwise, which had its four-game winning run snapped by Shogunai last week, vented its ire on Special Delivery.

A 21-13 win in the opening set moved the Larry Sharry-led Pwipwise to one victory away from returning to its winning ways. Pwipwise secured the win in the second set via a 21-15 triumph and completed the sweep with a 15-12 victory in the third set.

In the second game, Angamwas also recorded a three-set sweep to extend its winning run to three.

Behind Bruce Berline, Linda Anastacio, Adam Hardwicke, and Luther Taylor, Angamwas caught Shogu-

See SWEEP on Page 26

Dakota Hall: 'The Trickster'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Meet Dakota James Hall, who started playing soccer with just a simple kick, but now knows a lot of tricks, making him one of the most competitive U14 players on the island.

"I heard about soccer and its tournament from my classmate, Hunter Jewell. That was two years ago. From then on I came to love the sport so much," said the Saipan International School student.

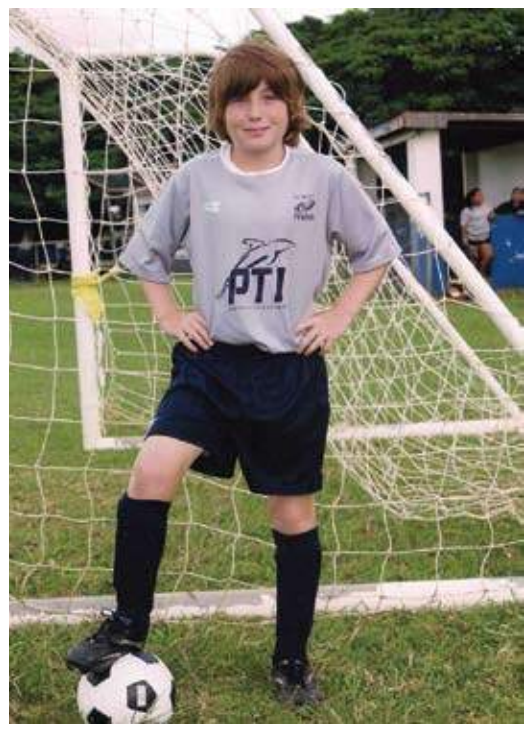
Soccer was not the first sport Hall played, thus he had difficulty playing in his first game.

"The first sport I ever played was hockey back when I was still in Idaho. Then I switched to boxing. I haven't played on a real team before. I only play soccer with my friends/classmates at my school in Idaho," the MP United player said.

He described his first soccer game as "nerve wracking," saying he was lost, as the only thing he knew how to do then was kick the ball.

"It was difficult because I only knew how to kick the ball. No tricks or anything. I did overcome it eventually through practicing. I practice a lot and soccer becomes my life. Right now, I play soccer only. I feel that I excel most in soccer that's why I concentrate on playing this particular sport," the 11-

See DAKOTA on Page 26



Name:	**Dakota James Hall**
Age:	**11**
Team:	**MP United**
Favorite Sports:	**Soccer**
Favorite Player:	**David Beckham**
Parents Name:	**Julie and Don Hall**